THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

KYIV TARGETS MOSCOW WITH 34 DRONES

Russia said it downed 34 Ukrainian attack drones targeting Moscow, the largest attempted attack on the capital since 2022. It forced the temporary closure of three airports. The picture on the left shows a car damaged in the attack. Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Russia launched 145 drones at Ukraine overnight | **AFP** | **P9**

EXPRESS READ

Indians fishing in SL waters concerning: Dissanayake

JAFFNA: Sri Lankan President Anura Dissanayake on Sunday took a firm stance against Indian fishermen "illegally" fishing in Sri Lankan waters. This comes in the backdrop of the arrest of 23 fishermen from Rameswaram by the Sri Lankan Navy on Sunday. **P5**

JUSTICE

SANJIV KHANNA TO TAKE OVER AS CJI TODAY

Justice Khanna will succeed Justice D Y Chandrachud, who retired on Sunday. He will be the 51st Chief Justice of India and his tenure will end on May 13, 2025 | **P7**

Waqf row: CM orders Revenue Dept to withdraw notices to farmers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

WITH just hours to go for by-polls to three Assembly constituencies, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Sunday ordered withdrawal of all notices issued by the Waqf Board, staking claim to lands of farmers and other individuals.

The order came just days after Jagadambika Pal, chairman of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Waqf (amendment) bill, received over 500 petitions from farmers of North Karnataka, including Hubballi, Vijayapura and Belagavi districts, complaining against Waqf Board's ownership claims.

The chief minister directed officials to withdraw the ongoing mutation process and notices served to farmers. The letter, issued by the Revenue Department on November 7 sought a report on the progress made in changing the land records. The department wanted an action taken report in 21,767 cases of changing khatas (land records), Ashoka stated and chided, "This is a U-turn government."

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah receives a guard of honour at Hubballi airport on Sunday | EXPRESS

Revenue Department principal secretary to all deputy commissioners, also warned that the action will be taken against officers who are issuing notices to farmers despite directions from the government on November 7.

Assembly Opposition Leader R Ashoka on Saturday alleged that though the CM had claimed to have withdrawn notices to farmers, the Revenue Department on November 7 sought a report on the progress made in changing the land records. The department wanted an action taken report in 21,767 cases of changing khatas (land records), Ashoka stated and chided, "This is a U-turn government."

BJP has turned this into a major issue ahead of the November 13 bypolls to Channapatna, Shiggaon and Sandur, stating that the Waqf Board has been claiming ownership of lands on which temples and graveyards are situated.

BJP, alleging that the ruling Congress is indulging in "Land Jihad", has demanded the resignation of Waqf Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan, saying he was solely responsible for the Waqf Board notices to farmers, who have tilled these lands for generations.

Nijjar's aide Arsh Dalla arrested by Canadian police

Dalla, designated as a terrorist by India, nabbed over a shooting incident in Ontario

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

CANADIAN police have detained Arshdeep Singh Gill alias Arsh Dalla, a close aide of slain Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar, in connection with a shootout case, sources said on Sunday. The Union home ministry had designated Dalla as a terrorist under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act last year.

Government sources said New Delhi would not seek his extradition as ties with Canada are cold after the latter's accusation of India's involvement in the killing of Nijjar, who was shot dead last June. "Extradition is going to be tough, as under the present situation it is going to be almost impossible. And also, the Canadian authorities have not arrested him so far, only detained him," an official said.

According to intelligence officials, information related to Dalla's detention in Ontario came shortly after reports of his involvement in a shootout on October 28. He was detained by Halton Regional Police, along with another person.

Meanwhile, the Punjab Police said on Sunday that they have arrested two members of Dalla's Canada-based gang in Mohali for their alleged involvement in the murder of a Sikh activist last month.

The Delhi Police had said last year that Dalla had links with international terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba and Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence. He was a key member of extremist groups Khalistan Tiger Force and the International Sikh Youth Federation. Sources said he lives in Surrey in Canada's British Columbia province with his wife and a minor daughter.

In a Facebook post, Dalla had taken responsibility for the murder of an electrician, Paramjeet Singh, from Punjab's Jagraon. His associates had shot dead Manohar Lal, a Dera Sacha Sauda follower in November 2020. He was also involved in hatching a conspiracy to kidnap and kill one Shakti Singh.

Wanted in India

The Punjab Police said preliminary investigations revealed Arsh Dalla tasked Navjot Singh alias Neetu, a resident of Kharar, Punjab, to target Gurpreet Singh Hari Nau, who runs a YouTube channel under the name of Hari Nau Talks

Act against Zameer: Guv's office to AG

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

ON Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot's direction, his special secretary has written to the advocate general, directing him to take action against Waqf Minister BZ Zameer Ahmed Khan for making allegations against a high court judgment.

In his letter, the governor's special secretary stated that as directed by the Governor, he is forwarding the representation submitted by social activist TJ Abraham, who has filed a complaint alleging illegalities in the allotment of sites by the Mysore Urban Development Authority to CM Siddramaiah's' wife BM Parvathi. The special secretary alleged that the minister has made serious allegations against the high court judgment, questioning the integrity of the judiciary. The governor's office has sought necessary action in accordance with the law. Zameer had termed the court's decision in September this year as a "political judgment" when it dismissed a petition by Siddaramaiah questioning the governor's sanction to prosecute him in the MUDA site allotment case.

Abraham had written to the governor, stating that the "advocate general had not bothered to respond" to his request for contempt of court and criminal proceedings against Zameer.

Army officer martyred in Jammu encounter

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

A Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO) of the Indian Army was killed during an encounter with terrorists in Jammu's Kishtwar district on Sunday.

"Based on specific intelligence input regarding the presence of terrorists, a joint operation was launched by security forces in Bhart Ridge, Kishtwar. Contact was established and fight ensued," the Army's Jammu-based White Knight Corps said in a post on X.

During the gunfight, JCO Rakesh Kumar of 2 Para (SF) was killed and three para commandos were injured, Army officials said. "A group of three to four militants are trapped in the area. It is the same group that had abducted and killed two village defence guards in Kishtwar two days ago," an official said. More troops have been rushed to the area to strengthen the siege. Forces are using drones and other surveillance equipment to track down the terrorists hiding in the dense forest.

In all, three encounters took place in Jammu and Kashmir since Saturday night.

In another incident, security forces and terrorists exchanged fire in the forest area of Zabarwan in Ishber Nishat in Srinagar. The gunfight erupted after terrorists fired indiscriminately at a search party comprising police, CRPF and Army personnel, an official said. The security agencies suspect two or three terrorists are hiding in the forest area of Zabarwan.

Earlier, a terrorist was killed in an overnight encounter with security forces in the Rajpora area of Sopore in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

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HDFC MUTUAL FUND
BHAROSA APNO KA
Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

ALMANAC TODAY
Monday: 11.11.2024 • Year: Krodhi • Ayana: Dakshinayana
Ritu: Sharad • Masa: Karthika • Paksha: Shukla • Tithi: Dasami 2.23 pm
Nakshatra: Purvabhadra 4.52 pm • Moon in Meena Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am
Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER
MIN 18°C | MAX 29°C
FORECAST
Afternoon clouds

Sunrise 06.16 am
Sunset 05.50 pm
Moonrise 02.17 pm
Moonset 01.35 am

02 BENGALURU MONDAY 11.11.2024 newindianexpress.com

ARE BBMP MULTI-LEVEL CAR PARKS TURNING INTO WHITE ELEPHANT?

Unless policies are designed to promote connectivity, prioritise mobility options, these measures will only worsen the problem: Expert

RISHITA KHANNA @ Bengaluru

WHILE parking remains a major challenge in Bengaluru, BBMP's Multi-Level Car Parking (MLCP) facilities across the city, including those on JC Road and the one recently opened at Freedom Park, remain largely unused. As BBMP explores ways to boost usage, the 'low occupancy' raises broader questions about the need for such facilities, especially with all MLCPs in the city facing similar issues.

Raghavendra P, a worker at the Freedom Park MLCP mentioned that the problem is especially evident during evenings and weekends when these spaces are almost entirely empty. "Many motorists continue to park illegally, without considering using the MLCPs," he said, pointing out that the facility is only making Rs 6,000 to Rs 7,000 daily, far below expectations.

Mobility Expert Professor Ashish Verma, who also heads the transportation engineering research lab at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), highlighted that MLCPs are not sustainable solutions to traffic congestion.

He explained that such infrastructure projects often fail because of lack of location review. "If the MLCP location does not offer connections to key areas, it will only encourage greater use of personal vehicles, which eventually spill onto the roads, making traffic conditions worse," he said, adding that simply providing more parking spaces encourages people to continue using private vehicles rather than shifting to public transport or other alternatives.

Professor Verma highlighted that the government must evaluate whether an area actually needs an MLCP. "For example, if an MLCP is placed in a congested area like Freedom Park or JC Road, but people need to travel to another congested area like Chickpet with no proper connectivity, the facility will be pointless. Without proper links to key areas, the MLCP will likely be underused or abandoned," he highlighted.

The expert stressed that unless policies are designed to promote connectivity and prioritise mobility options, these measures will only worsen the problem. What's needed, he argued, is a comprehensive mobility strategy that reduces dependence on private cars and focuses on improving public transport and other sustainable solutions.

Parking problems should be solved by demand management interventions - managing how many people need parking - rather than supply side interventions like creating more parking spaces. The real issue is traffic movement, so focusing on reducing the number of cars on the road and encouraging better public transportation options is key, the mobility expert added.

Highlighting about the Freedom Park MLCP, Trade activist Sajjan Raj Mehta explained that people who visit areas like Chickpet and BVK Iyengar Road, which are wholesale markets, usually come empty-handed and leave with large items.

"If the shoppers have to find another mode of transport just to reach their respective vehicle, why would anyone waste their time and money?" he questioned, adding that the business at the MLCP is likely to decline. BBMP officials stated they are in talks about how to make better use of the space, and increase the usage of all MLCPs throughout the city.

No date yet for 'Chalakara Dinacharane'

AKNISREE KARTHIK @ Bengaluru

WHILE multiple requests were submitted to the state transport department to select a specific day in a year dedicated to the drivers- 'Chalakara Dinacharane' (Drivers Day), it is yet to designate a day. Auto, cab, goods and truck drivers have urged the transport department to declare a day, so that all the drivers can unitedly celebrate it. Also, on Chalakara Dinacharane, along with celebrations, the drivers want the department to identity the best drivers and honour them, and also commemorate the day by bringing their various issues and demands to the attention of the government.

There were requests to declare a day in the month of November, which is filled with the celebrations of Kannada culture and language as part of the Kannada Rajyotsava celebrations. Also, there were requests to declare the birth anniversary of actor and director Late Shankar Nag who is revered as an icon of the auto drivers community. There were some representations to declare the day on the death anniversary of Shankar Nag.

As transport department is yet to announce any date officially, representatives from the Adarsha Auto and Taxi Drivers Union, Peace Auto, Karnataka State Private School Van Drivers Union, Jai Bharath Vahana Chalakara Sangha and others, who celebrated their 11th year Kannada Rajyotsava on Saturday, requested Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy to designate Shankar Nag's birth anniversary.

When *The New Indian Express* spoke to Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy, he said he would check with the transport department on the date for Chalakara Dinacharane.

On World Public Transport Day, City Police Commissioner B Dayananda and Additional Commissioner (Traffic) MN Anucheth participate in a safety awareness campaign at Kempegowda Bus Station in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Cops urge techies to use public transport at least once a week

RAKSHITH GOWDA @ Bengaluru

ON the occasion of World Transport Day, city traffic police urged citizens to use public transport. The main aim is to reduce traffic congestion and emissions, and create a greener city for future generations.

Apart from this, the IT employees have been requested to use public transport at least once a week. If 50% of IT employees use public transport, as per an estimate, traffic congestion could be reduced by around 20%, as many of them rely on cars and two-wheelers. Police and senior officers have also been asked to set an example.

The city and traffic police called up on the public to take a pledge to use public transportation, on the occasion of World Public Transport Day on Sunday. The pledge encourages citizens to use public transport and alternative modes like cycling or walking for shorter journeys and also to embrace eco-friendly transportation options for daily commutes.

During the event, city police commissioner B Dayananda said that using public transportation such as the BMTC bus service, autorickshaws, metro for short routes and for longer journeys and KSRTC buses reduce emissions and traffic congestion in the city. He further said excessive use of private vehicles not only worsens traffic congestion, but significantly contributes to the city's air pollution, impacting the overall health and well-being of residents. He urged even wealthier citizens to consider public transport options. Increased use of public transportation will help to reduce parking issues and accident rates across the city.

Speaking to *TNIE*, Shivaprakash Devaraju (Traffic-South) said that public transportation is considered as the best solution to create a green city and reduce traffic congestion.

Additionally, police are trying to collect feedback from commuters regarding bus routes and timings. Later, police along with BMTC officials will discuss whether to increase the bus facilities.

BMRCL also posted Q and A on its social media platforms about how public transport reduces traffic congestion and emission, as taking metro ride means fewer cars or two-wheelers on the road.

Compensatory afforestation: BMRCL plants 25k saplings

MOHAMMED YACOOB @ Bengaluru

THE BMRCL has planted 25,720 tree saplings as Compensatory Afforestation (CA). According to BBMP forest division, the BMRCL, which has few reaches now to connect Bengaluru City from one part to another, has to take up compensatory afforestation as the metro project required felling of thousands of trees. "The places were identified across the city and in three different phases, tree saplings that are native and can sustain the weather have been planted. The BBMP forest department had monitored the work. The project was initiated in June 2023 and by September 2023, 25,000 plus tree saplings were planted and now they have grown well, the BMRCL only will maintain the same for two more years," said BLG Swamy, Deputy Conservator Of Forest BBMP.

The CA taken under Phase-2 in which 17,690 saplings were planted in places like ASC North (Training areas) Ibluru, CMP (Training area) Neelasandra, Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout, Old Military Dairy Farm, Hebbal, and in Youth Training Center JP Nagar.

Similarly, under Phase-2A, 8030 saplings were planted in the same areas. According to officials, 40,050 more saplings will be planted under the CA component and now instead of BMRCL, the forest department will only take up the cause.

"The finance department of BMRCL will transfer the amount required for CA and its maintenance for three years to the forest department. BMRCL has many tasks to do and its focus is on infrastructure and hence as a social responsibility, the required amount will be transferred to the forest department as they have a dedicated team to take up afforestation and maintenance of the tree saplings," said an official.

The correspondence and other documents in this relation will be done in December 2024 and in the next monsoon season, there will be a massive tree sapling plantation drive including CA, a senior official from BMRCL added.

THICK FOG

Six flights diverted from Bengaluru

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A THICK fog on Sunday morning at the Bengaluru airport resulted in poor visibility and diversion of six flights, including an international one, to neighbouring airports. Four flights from Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) were diverted to Chennai, two were diverted to Hyderabad while there were delays in take-off by more than 15 flights. Morning flights on Monday and Tuesday too will be affected due to foggy conditions, said a senior weather official.

According to a source from the airport operator, Bangalore International Airport Limited, the airport experienced lowest visibility conditions on Sunday from 5.08 am to 7.25 am.

An Air India flight from Abu Dhabi to Bengaluru was diverted to Chennai. The airline's flight from Mumbai too was diverted there. The other two flights diverted to Chennai include Akasa Air's flight from Mumbai and a Spicejet flight from New Delhi. An Indigo flight from Hyderabad had to return to Hyderabad as it was unable to land at Bengaluru airport. A cargo flight supposed to land at Bengaluru too was diverted to Hyderabad.

Chanabasanagouda S Patil, Scientist and Director, India Meteorological Department, KIA, said, "Due to stable atmosphere and moisture content at the surface level, fog is expected to continue for the next two days at the airport and surrounding areas." Elaborating on today's scenario, Patil said the visibility started dipping below 600 metres from 4.30 am onwards and it was poor till 7.25 am. It even touched 50 metres visibility."

BCU invites applications for PG courses

Bangalore City University has invited applications for the third round of admissions to fill up remaining seats in Post Graduate courses. Applications can be downloaded and submitted before November 21 and the counselling will be held on November 25. For further details on eligibility and course fees, please visit the Bangalore City University website: http://bcu.ac.in.

EXPRESS READ

Workshop on model rocketry launched

The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe), in collaboration with the Astronautical Society of India (ASI) and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), launched the IN-SPACe Model Rocketry India Student Competition 2024-25. The initiative aims to inspire technological talent in rocketry and promote a skilled science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) workforce with a focus on space technology. About 86 student teams from across the country have registered for the competition, which promotes innovation and technical expertise. Following evaluations and design reviews, 55 teams have progressed to attend the 'Essentials of Model Rocketry Workshop," organised in collaboration with the Indian Air Force at the Air Force Station in Jalahalli from Saturday till November 15. The workshop was inaugurated by Padma Shri awardee Dr BN Suresh, Chancellor of the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST). Dr Vinod Kumar, Program Director at IN-SPACe and Executive Secretary of ASI, who conceptualised the workshop, outlined its curriculum and emphasised the importance of model rocketry.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

11TH November : Have you ever dreamed of travelling to distant planets? We believe that it is impossible to travel faster than the speed of light, and that means we'll never be able to get to even the nearest star. Actually, as we now know, light travels at different speeds in different circumstances. It therefore seems to me that we need to find out more about what light is, and then visit far away parts of the galaxy.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
The world's astrologers are expecting you to take the lead this week. I know many of you may grumble, but you were born with undoubted leadership qualities, and the rest of us are now in need of your commanding skills. Yet there is no right way and no wrong way, so you can set your own strategy.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
If I said that this week's planetary conditions were bursting with potential, I'd be guilty of a massive understatement. I am not saying that you will be directly involved in exciting activities, but your total awareness of the world will be coloured by the brilliant encounters which parade themselves in front of you.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Lunar alignments afford you considerable protection, but are also inclined to make you a little over-emotional. As soon as things begin to go wrong, you'll tend to panic. Stop and take a deep breath, count to ten and look around for the nearest escape hatch!

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
Sometimes you swing to extremes, and it's very difficult for anyone else to know which course you're following at any particular time. It is also often said that love and hate are two sides of the same coin. I cannot tell which way you will jump this week, but I can say that passions will be running high. Let us hope that love will triumph.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
Optimism is your greatest asset. Utterly unrealistic expectations, on the other hand, are not only your major handicap, but are all too likely to be dashed. You may not wish to believe it, but your sign is one of the most fortunate in the zodiac at the moment.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
I'll get the bad news out of the way first: you are liable to feel let down when somebody seems to disagree with you. The good news is that you're in with a high chance of getting your story straight and your act together. A rival may even admit that you're right after all!

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
Financial affairs hold the key to everything this week, whether purely personal or public and professional. If at all possible, do avoid all reckless and impulsive actions. These can only cost you dear. You might also be wondering whether an emotional tie is worth the price.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
You can expect fireworks this week. That's not a joke. There really is a strong chance that someone is going to go over the top. Make sure it's not you, and that you are on hand with soothing words. That is the least that a loved one expects, especially after all you've said in the past.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
You must bear in mind that nothing this week will be easy to understand. Mysteries abound and confusion will be rife, but if you can hang on until next week, you'll begin to see where it is all heading. Actually, the chances of reaching a firm agreement are better than you think.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
You need extra support, but it is honestly impossible to say whether it will be forthcoming. What others expect or imagine can only help you get to grips with your own affairs. You see, this is a deeply sociable time and whatever you do, whatever you say, everything hinges on your personal relationships.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Jealousy, resentment and animosity are your enemies. If you give in to such feelings, you will risk all that you have so carefully built up. Professional people are now in a delicate position, perhaps because they will expose themselves to criticism.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
More than anyone, you are in a position to understand this week's many events. While others will be visited by trials and tribulations, you may stand back and take a typically philosophical approach. You understand that what seems terribly important now might be utterly irrelevant later.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

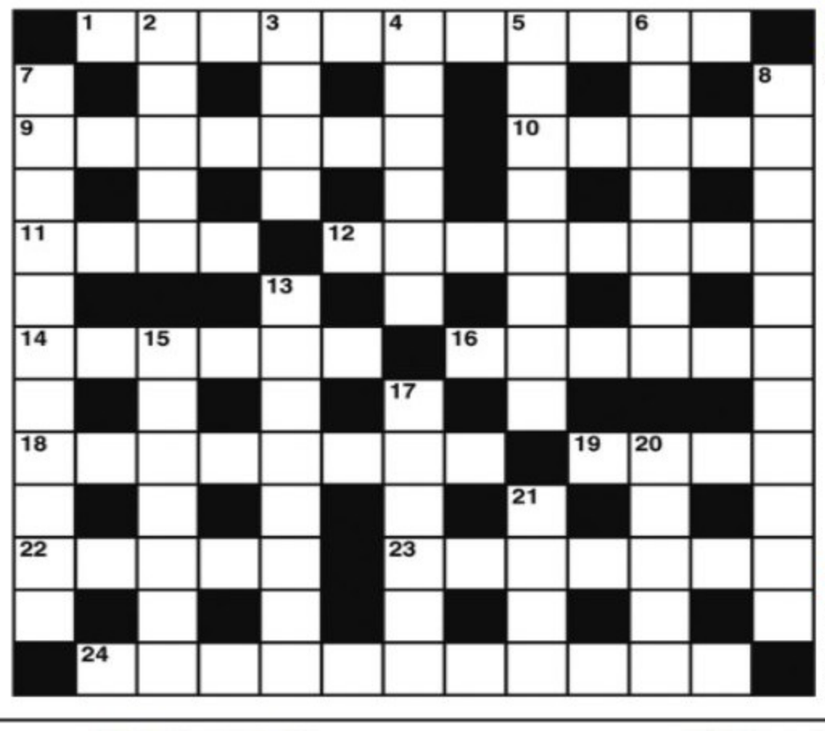
	2	9		5	3	4		
3			7			9		6
8			6	1	9	3		
		1					4	
		7	9		2	5		
	8					7		
		2	4	9	5			8
7		8			6			4
		6	1	7		2	5	

7	3	6	2	5	8	4	1	9
1	2	4	9	6	3	5	8	7
5	8	9	7	1	4	2	3	6
8	5	7	1	4	9	3	6	2
9	1	2	6	3	5	7	4	8
6	4	3	8	7	2	9	5	1
2	7	5	4	8	1	6	9	3
4	9	1	3	2	6	8	7	5
3	6	8	5	9	7	1	2	4

SUDOKU EASY

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 A healer whose patients may be spellbound (5,6)
9 It is said there is nothing to share (7)
10 It turns out articles in France and Britain (5)
11 Bound to sound like a current variation (4)
12 Day broke strangely it's noted (8)
14 Broke out of purdah (4,2)
16 Figure in the art world (6)
18 Sartorially appropriate but not quite yet (8)
19 The ultimate salt shaker (4)
22 Sweetheart long gone (5)
23 Interim changes made at journeys' ends (7)
24 One who offers gratuitous suggestions? (11)

DOWN
2 I'm taking a long time to get the picture (5)
3 Eastern country without a prominent feature (4)
4 A fool to assume the solution (6)
5 Unusually bad cloth may make the skin tingle (4,4)
6 Not at home with shy rejected person (7)
7 Kick the account around or pay up (4,3,4)
8 Having no grave doubts? (4,7)
13 Duck when beer mugs are thrown around (8)
15 Make successful comeback as upholsterers will? (7)
17 Fragment of song one should quickly grasp (6)
20 Quick article as it happens (5)
21 Spasmodic rain in the country (4)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Maiden, 4 Acerbate, 9 Massif, 10 Browning, 12 Rare, 13 Thief, 14 Song, 17 Abbreviation, 20 Dissertation, 23 Over, 24 Touch, 25 Calf, 28 Outsider, 29 Setter, 30 Naturist, 31 Edicts.

Down: 1 Memorial, 2 Inscribe, 3 Evil, 5 Current price, 6 Rows, 7 Alison, 8 Engage, 11 Chain smokers, 15 Devil, 16 Togas, 18 Gigantic, 19 Uniforms, 21 Cocoon, 22 Septet, 26 Pier, 27 Lead.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

LIRLG

CAXTE

OCRWDA

DWEPOR

Looks like our first units are sold out!
They're all the buzz!
9/16
THE COMPANY LAUNCHED THEIR NEW HAIR TRIMMERS WHICH WERE SELLING ---
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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: YEAST BRASH PLURAL ENOUGH
Answer: Since last visiting the capital of the Czech Republic, there'd been much — "PRAGUE-RESS"

The Bengaluru Traffic Police, who launched a special drive against ecommerce delivery personnel in the city on Saturday, booked 2,670 cases against errant gig workers and collected a total penalty of over Rs 13 lakh from them

Woman strangles 3-year-old son after fight with husband

Accused angry over husband's affair

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Belagavi

IN a heart-wrenching incident in Ugar Khurd village of Kagwad taluk, a woman allegedly strangled her 3-year-old son after a heated argument with her husband, on Saturday.

The deceased child has been identified as Satvik Rahul Katageri. According to the police, tension had been brewing between the child's parents, Rahul and Bhagyashree. Bhagyashree suspected that her husband was having an affair, which often led to their discord.

On the day of the incident, the couple had a particularly intense argument, after which an enraged Bhagyashree allegedly strangled her son in a fit of rage. She even attempted to take her own life, but was unsuccessful.

A case has been registered at the Kagwad police station, and both Bhagyashree and Rahul have been detained for further investigation. The police is working to uncover full details of the incident.

Another Infant's body recovered from canal

In a separate incident, in the same police jurisdiction, the body of a newborn was discovered in a water canal, on the outskirts of Mole village on Sunday. According to the police, the infant must have been born 3-4 days ago.

The child development officer, along with Kagwad police, visited the spot, and are currently investigating to identify the infant, and determine the circumstances surrounding the death.

MAN KILLS WIFE AFTER SHE ASKS HIM TO SERVE HIS OWN LUNCH

SHIVAMOGGA: A man strangled his wife with a towel after she asked him to serve his lunch himself at Ambligola village in Shikaripura taluk on Saturday. The suspect, identified as Manu (35), allegedly murdered his wife, Gouramma (28). According to the police, Gouramma, who worked at a garment factory in Shikaripura, was on a phone call when Manu returned home in the afternoon and asked her to serve him a meal. When she suggested he help himself, an argument ensued. Police said Manu strangled her during the altercation. The couple have two children, who were reportedly playing outside during the time of the incident. The Shikaripura Rural police took Manu into custody and are investigating. **ENS**

Woman doc takes fake Ola cab at KIA, files police plaint

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

A woman doctor, who boarded an Ola cab at the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) on Friday night, realised shortly that he was an impersonator and reached out to the emergency helpline 112 later. The police arrived promptly and rescued her. She filed a detailed police complaint at the airport police station and the driver Basavaraj has been arrested.

In a post on X on November 9, she said, "Almost got trafficked/raped/looted/assaulted by a random cabdriver who was let in by @Blrairport in the Ola pick-up station and impersonated to be one at Terminal 1 of Bengaluru airport at 10.30 pm. Had I not called 112, I'd not be here typing this."

The post went viral with 2.5 million views and generated much public engagement.

In her police complaint filed a day earlier, the doctor narrated that she arrived at KIA's T1 from Delhi and made an Ola booking on her phone. Shortly, driver Basavaraj arrived in a sedan, while she had booked a mini cab. When she asked him

about the car model, he said it was okay and he would drop her. He then asked her to reach pick up point No. 1 of the Ola pick-up station. "As soon as I got in the car, he didn't ask for my Ola OTP number. I kept telling him the OTP to which he did not respond. After travelling 700 metres, he asked me to enter the location on his phone which I did," her complaint said.

While the fare on the app showed Rs 1,300, the driver said he needed Rs 1,500 as he was taking her in a "luxurious sedan". The doctor refused to pay more and asked him to drop her back to the Ola pick-up station, but he kept driving ahead. When she asked him where he was taking her, Basavaraj told her his friend would come in a mini-car and accept the fare of Rs 1,300. He then stopped at a petrol bunk and ordered her to pay Rs 500 for the fuel claiming his payment app was not working. Worried, the doctor who was on a call with a family member shared her location with him and also called up 112 and explained the situation and gave her location.

The driver realised she had reached out to the police and agreed to drop her back at the pick-up station. The doctor shared her live location too with police who arrived at T1 within 20 minutes and took him into custody. Her complaint added that he might be drunk or under the influence of a substance.

TO THE FINISH LINE

Women take part in the Saree Run at Jayanagar in Bengaluru on Sunday. A total of 9,230 women particpated in the event, which aimed to foster a sense of community, health and inclusivity | EXPRESS

SIX KILLED IN THREE SEPARATE ACCIDENTS

ENS @ Bengaluru

SIX people were killed in three separate accidents since Saturday. Two men died after a BMTC electric bus struck their two-wheeler on the Kempegowda International Airport Road on Saturday night.

The deceased have been identified as Ramesh (41), a truck driver, and Nabbi (35), an autorickshaw driver. Both were residents of Chikkajala.

The police said around 7.30 pm, the BMTC bus heading towards the airport hit the rear of the bike near Sadahalli Gate on KIA Road. Ramesh and Nabbi were injured and rushed to hospital, but doctors declared them brought dead. The Chikkajala traffic police have registered a case.

In another accident, a 47-year-old truck driver died after his speeding truck collided with a parked goods vehicle. The incident took place near 19th Main Road, HSR Layout, on Sunday morning.

The deceased has been identified as Manjunath, a resident of Nelamangala. The police said that owing to poor visibility and over-speeding, around 4.30 am on Sunday, the driver lost control and crashed into the parked vehicle. Passersby rushed him to hospital, but he succumbed to his injuries. The HSR Layout traffic police have registered a case.

Meanwhile, three people were killed when the car they were travelling in collided head on with a truck on Kanakapura Road in Ramanagara district on Saturday evening.

The deceased have been identified as Sathish, Manjunath, and Ramachandra, all aged 27-30 years, and residents of Banashankari.

Four hurt as car topples on Yeshwanthpur flyover

ENS @ Bengaluru

A speeding car crashed into the road median and toppled on the Yeshwanthpur flyover in the wee hours of Sunday. The four men on board, aged 23-25 years, escaped with minor injuries. All are residents of the city.

The police said that around 2.30 am, a sedan heading towards Sadashivanagar from Tumakuru lost control while negotiating a curve on the flyover. The driver hit the road median and the car toppled. Passersby rushed the injured men to a nearby hospital, where they were treated for minor injuries. The Yeshwanthpur traffic police have registered a case.

The flyover witnesses frequent accidents, due to its alleged unscientific design. On September 3, one died and four were injured after their speeding car crashed into the median on the same flyover, then collided with a bike coming in the opposite direction and plunged downwards.

In 2019, an IISc study had concluded that the design of the Yeshwanthpur flyover was flawed, and yet no action was taken. According to it, accidents are due to the poor design of the horizontal curvature, which results in a very sharp turn, making heavy vehicles vulnerable.

Multiple plaints, legal notice against interior designer firm for duping public

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

MULTIPLE homeowners have allegedly been duped by an interior designer firm based in HSR Layout which promised interiors and collected the full amount in advance. With not much work done, owners have filed complaints against Wudzo Home Interiors at police stations across the city over the last two years. A few are also approaching the Consumer Court, while a legal notice was served on the firm recently.

Bhavneet Singh Ahuja, a software engineer and KR Puram resident, lost Rs 10 lakh to Wudzo. He said, "We have a group comprising over 40 people who have been duped by Wudzo. One has lost Rs 80 lakh, while some have lost lesser. The average amount is Rs 25 lakh. Some have just given up the fight. I filed a complaint at the Jagjivan Ram Nagar police station on August 24. Someone in the firm was arrested and later released on bail. I also slapped a legal notice on August 11."

Jaideep Singh, who paid Rs 28 lakh, says the maximum worth of the interiors done by the firm may not be more than Rs 3 lakh. "I filed a complaint at the Hulimavu police station on May 20, 2023," he says.

Raj Sadasivam, a software consultant, paid Rs 40 lakh for interiors for his 4BHK villa in Choodasandra purchased in April 2021. "Going by the advertisements on social media, I entrusted the interiors to them in July. For a few months, their staff came and did the false ceiling and some minor work. They kept telling me to pay up fully to collect material. Pictures of the material ready in a factory were shown to me. I believed it and paid in full. But only around 10% of the work was done and was stopped later," he said.

He later hired another designer and did some modest interiors so that his family could move in. He filed a complaint with the HSR Layout police.

Wudzo Project Manager Aswin Sukumaran was arrested and released a week ago. He said, "The two owners of the firm are based in Dubai. I am just an employee in Bengaluru and so is Manu Krishnan, the sales manager. Cases are being filed against us." He claimed that the promised work will be completed for all the clients. "We are not cheats. There has been some delay. We had a shortage of funds. Someone wrote negatively about us on social media last year and this impacted our business. We will take materials on credit. We plan to complete all pending work by December 2024," he added.

Bharat Bank
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(Multi-State Scheduled Bank)

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Central Office: (Legal and Recovery) Goregaon (East), Mumbai - 400 063, Tel: 022-61890000/88

POSSESSION NOTICE

WHEREAS

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Bharat Co-operative Bank (Mumbai) Ltd., under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices upon the Borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The said Borrowers/Legal Heirs having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the said Borrowers/Legal Heirs in particular and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described hereinbelow in exercise of powers conferred on the undersigned under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this **05th day of November 2024.**

The said Borrowers/Legal Heirs in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the said property and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of **Bharat Co-operative Bank (Mumbai) Ltd.** for the following claim amounts with further interest and less amount paid thereafter if any.

SR NO	NAME OF THE BORROWER/ JOINT/CO-BORROWER/LEGAL HEIRS	DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE	NOTICE AMOUNT (Rs.)
1.	Borrower: Mr. Yashraj Ramakrishna S/o Mr. A Ramakrishna	15.07.2024	Rs.15,89,307/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Eighty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Seven) as on 30.06.2024 under Housing Loan Account No. 003233310066137 with future interest and other charges w.e.f 01.07.2024.
2.	Borrower : (i) M/s. Inart Infrastructure Partners & Joint Borrowers (ii) Mr. Yashraj Ramakrishna S/o. Mr. A Ramakrishna (iii) Mrs. Soumya W/o. Mr. Vinaya N Salian Joint/Co-Borrowers & Legal heirs: iv) Mrs. Aditi Jyesht Verman Prop. of M/s. Agnishwaatth Medical Equipments (Joint Borrower as well as Wife and Legal heirs Late Jyesht Verman) v) Mrs. Gayathri Yashraj W/o. Mr. Yashraj Ramakrishna (Daughter & Legal heir of Late Jyesta Verman) vi) Mr. Indra Verman (Son & Legal heir of Late Jyesta Verman) vii) Mrs. Savana Vermen(Daughter & Legal Heir of Late Jyesta Verman)	15.07.2024	(i) Rs.2,12,22,318/- (Rupees Two Crore Twelve Lakhs Twenty Two Thousand Three Hundred and Eighteen) as on 04.07.2024 under Term Loan Account No. 007733510000110 with future interest and other charges w.e.f 05.07.2024. (ii) Rs.91,46,277/- (Rupees Ninety One Lakh Forty Six Thousand Two Hundred and Seventy Seven) as on 30.06.2024 under Cash Credit Limit A/c No. 007713100000041, with future interest and other charges w.e.f. 01.07.2024. (iii) Rs.56,51,562/- (Rupees Fifty Six Lakh Fifty One Thousand Five Hundred and Sixty Two only) as on 30.06.2024 under Term Loan A/c No. 007733600000026 with future interest and other charges w.e.f 01.07.2024

The borrowers/mortgagor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the immovable Property

Residential Flat No.05, on the 8th Floor in 'A' Block measuring 1165 sq.ft super built up area in the Group Housing Enclave known as 'PLATINUM CITY' constructed in reverentially converted land now bearing B.M.P Khatha No.2, H.M.T Main Road, Ward No.1, Yeshwanthpura, Bangalore (comprised earlier in Sy No.47 & 48 measuring 28 acre 3 guntas and 6 acre 24 guntas respectively in Peenya Village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore) along with one covered car parking space together with proportionate 163.1 sq.ft undivided share, right, title & interest in the above said land exclusively identified with the aforesaid block.

Sd/-
Date: 05.11.2024
Place: Bangalore
Chief Manager & Authorised Officer
Bharat Co-operative Bank (Mumbai) Ltd.

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Praising the Union Government's move to amend the Waqf Board Act, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said, "In Karnataka, villages, temples and agricultural lands were converted into Waqf land. But after the Centre's amendments, such acts will not be possible." He was campaigning in Maharasthra ahead of the November 13 Assembly polls on Sunday

'Demography on the curve with falling fertility rates'

PIC: ALLEN EGENUSE J

EXPRESS Dialogues

CONCERNS over demographic changes, arising out of low fertility rates and aging population are real and southern states fear losing out on political representation at the Centre. "Not just southern states, many other states in India have reached a below replacement level fertility and it is irreversible," said well-known demographer and former professor in population studies at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, **Dr Purushottam M Kulkarni**, in an informal chat during this week's 'Express Dialogues' with *Team TNIE*

Fertility rates have lowered in many states, including all southern states. How do you look at the demographic changes in the next 50 years in the country?
All South Indian states are seeing low total fertility rates (TFRs) and states like West Bengal, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab among others have also reached replacement levels or are now below the replacement level. Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, which had a fertility rate of six and seven, have come down to three or lower. There is a demographic transition. Mortality is declining, followed by fertility. The trend started in Kerala and Tamil Nadu, but soon more states were added. In states which are ahead in demographic transition, their population growth will stop earlier. If there is no migration by the 2050s, a large number of states will reach the peak population and it will stop growing. There will be gradual population reduction. Many estimates, including that of the UN, state that before 2070, India will reach its peak population of approximately 170 crore. Once the low fertility process sets in, generally, it does not reverse. Around 50 years ago, there was panic about population explosion. India's population quadrupled in the last century, but now the growth rate has slowed down. We will have the exact figures with the census. Demographers are confident that the growth will be around 1%, unlike 2% earlier. (A TFR of 2.1 is generally considered replacement level fertility since at low mortality, this amounts to the population replacing itself from one generation to the next.)

Where does Karnataka stand?
Karnataka has reached below replacement level with a TFR of around 1.6. By the mid-2040s, its natural population growth will halt unless offset by significant migration. Managing this inevitable migration requires policymakers to ensure a smooth and equitable process, addressing both local and migrant concerns. The state's population is expected to stabilise around seven crore. Regions like Mandya and Hassan witnessed early fertility declines due to concerns like land division. In contrast, northern districts still show higher fertility due to socio-economic challenges. Bengaluru's growth, driven by migration, has pushed its population past 1 crore, though exact numbers remain unclear without a census.

What are the factors for the decline in the fertility rate?
Multiple factors have contributed to the decline in the fertility rate. Many government programmes have provided free contraception and free sterilisation. Also, there is a rise in aspirations among people. Most couples choose to have two children or one child to better provide for them, give them quality education and other facilities.

How will low fertility impact India?
There have been debates over the Malthusian theory of population (that population growth will always exceed the growth of means of subsistence). Some say high population growth is bad because there will be limitations on land and resources and there will be starvation. But others say that some population growth is good as there will be more consumers and more human resources. Well-known economist Gary Becker spoke of a "quantity and quality" trade-off... suggesting that instead of having many children with limited resources, families could have fewer children and provide them with more. Couples now choose to have two children or just one to be able to provide a better quality of life.

Was the desire for a son one of the reasons for the high birth rate earlier?
It was one of the factors in the earlier days, but not now. Also, earlier people who had two to three sons went on having children. The idea of regulating fertility was not there. It was considered natural or even God's gift. Maternal and child mortality was high then, which also played a major role in couples choosing to have more children.

Can fertility rate be increased/stabilised?
Some developed countries with low-fertility rates, which had to import workers and labourers, tried different ways to promote fertility, what is called as pronatalist policy. But they didn't succeed. In the Soviet Union, a medal was given to women for having more children. Romania banned abortion, and it is a well-known case, which failed after one year. Countries have also tried other ways like long maternity leaves and child support initiatives, which included one-year paid maternity leave and another year's leave where you do not lose your job. But this hasn't done much. While the policies are good for the health and career of women and children, they have not been able to raise fertility above replacement level. People now have stronger reasons to stop at one child.

Family planning is not encouraged in certain religions/ communities. Is the fertility rate low even among them?
Religious sanctions have been there for a long time. In the West it was Catholic-Protestant differential. The church had opposed contraception. Use of contraception was lower in Catholics than Protestants. But over time, differences have narrowed. In India, there are some differences but not large. Fertility among Christians and Sikhs is already low and declining among Muslims as well. The latter's population growth will be different and will be slightly higher than average for some time. If contraceptive prevalence is around 50% overall, among Muslims it is close to 40%. It is not 0-10%. The assumption that some communities do not use contraception is not true. But there is a gap.

What is your opinion on the delimitation of Parliament seats based on population?
The 1976 Constitutional amendment was brought in to freeze Parliamentary representation according to the 1971 census. According to the Constitution, Parliamentary representation should be worked out after every census, proportionate to population - the more the population, the more the members of Parliament. The amendment was brought in when there were concerns over population explosion and the population control programme was at its peak. However, the same continued even after the 2001 census and even now, we are using the 1971 population as the basis for Parliamentary representation. The concern is that the states which adopted the population-control measures well will be penalised in terms of their Parliamentary representation. This has to be reviewed. It is a politically sensitive issue but there should be political consensus. They should work out a scheme which is fair, does not penalise people and is responsive to the needs of the people.

In hindsight, do you think the family planning campaign was a demographic 'blunder'?
In the late 60s to mid-70s, fertility drop was desired because population growth was rapid and it was leading to several issues related to food, pollution, crowding and others. High population growth was not desirable. Family planning was already in practice, but it was staggered across the country and not uniform across, which is also the case in other aspects like economy, urbanisation or industrialisation.

With falling fertility, is the aging population a concern?
Age structure has changed in a way that now you have a lower dependency ratio. There are relatively more people in working age and this will be there for, maybe next 20 years. After that, we will have a more elderly population. In the past, we just had 5-6% of elderly, above the age of 60. Gradually, it will increase to 25%. In some places, it can go up to 30%. This is inevitable. Even if the fertility rate is at the replacement level, at low mortality, the share of the elderly will be above 20% in the long run. That is something we have to live with and provide for.

What is the economic fallout of an aging population?
The share of the working-age population in India is increasing and it will increase for some more time and that is good for the economy if we use the demographic opportunity. The concern is that the share of elderly is set to increase. A sharp reduction in children born today would lead to very small cohorts of workers after some time and increase the dependency burden. The elderly population will rise from 5% to 28% over this century. By 2050, it's expected to reach 13-14%. This slow pace provides enough time to build facilities like old age homes. The challenge is not immediate, but gradual preparations are essential. With sustained economic growth, we should have the financial means to support this transition. The focus should be on anticipating these changes and steadily developing infrastructure to meet the needs of an aging society.

What measures should be put in place to address the challenges of an aging population?
There are already schemes for elderly health. Addressing the needs of the aging population is crucial. Health programmes are seen as general welfare measures, but long-term planning is key. Our plans and policies must provide for it and we have to be prepared for it. There must be schemes and facilities to cater to the health and overall well-being of the elderly.

Is increasing the retirement age an option to cater to the issue of elderly population?
That is one possibility. Many European countries have a high retirement age, which is 65 or 67 years.

With more young adults moving away from marriage, do you think this shift could further impact birth rates, as seen in parts of Europe?
In Europe, whether a child is born within or outside marriage is no longer a major social concern. In India, however, it still holds significance, though this may change over the next few decades. A declining trend in family size — no children or one-child families — has already lowered fertility rates, and while policies like maternity leave may help slightly, they cannot fully reverse this. The aim has been replacement-level fertility, a TFR of 2.1. This represents an average: some families have two children, others three, and some only one. Achieving this would eventually stabilise the population, leading to a "stationary population," where births and deaths balance, keeping the population size and age distribution constant. However, societal preferences, like fewer people choosing to have children, make this goal increasingly unlikely, and such choices cannot be mandated.

The population stagnation is expected to peak by 2070. What is the message for policymakers?
Now that they have a clear picture of the numbers, they should work towards planning and try to improve the quality of service. The dip in fertility rate will be first visible in schools as the rate of admission of school children will drop. It has already come down in Karnataka, Kerala and a few other states. Many districts may not have school-children. The government can now focus on improving school infrastructure, student-teacher ratio and others.

CM Siddaramaiah speaks to the media at Hubballi Airport on Sunday | D HEMANTH

PM's claims of ₹700cr from K'taka for Maha polls pure lie, says Siddu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Hubballi/Haveri

A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi alleged that the Congress in Karnataka was collecting Rs 700 crore from liquor shop owners to fund the party's election campaign in Maharashtra, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Sunday said, "It is nothing new for PM Modi to lie... but lies of this scale bring great disgrace to the office of the PM." Siddaramaiah was responding to the media at Hubballi Airport on Sunday.

On Modi's claim that Karnataka Excise Department was diverting Rs 700 crore to fund the Congress election campaign in the neighbouring state, the CM asked where would the Excise Department even find Rs 700 crore. "Someone at the level of the PM should not lack this kind of understanding," the CM said.

On future actions against former CM BS Yediyurappa and former minister B Sriramulu based on a report by the Justice John Michael D'Cunha Commission, the CM said, "Let the report first come before the Cabinet. Then a decision will be made."

Responding to former CM Basavaraj Bommai's statement that the BJP will not be intimidated by the so-called "empty threats" in the report, Siddaramaiah asked, "How can the commission's report be considered an empty threat? Looting public money and then calling it an empty threat, how is that possible?" Reacting to Yediyurappa's claim that there was an attempt on his life during a Congress government term, Siddaramaiah asked, "Why didn't Yediyurappa file a complaint or register a case back then?"

Meanwhile, Union Minister Pralhad Joshi has hit out at Justice John Michael D'Cunha , who is investigating the purchase of PPE kits, saying, "You are a judge, not an agent". Speaking at a public meeting organised by BJP candidate Bharat Bommai in Shiggaon, Joshi said, "Justice John Michael D'Cunha has always been against us. Why should an interim report be issued during election time? What has this government been doing for a year and a half? This is merely a ploy to divert public attention. There is no substance here. Siddaramaiah, you claimed you consumed Rs 90 crore, not Rs 190 crore, in the Valmiki corporation scandal. No matter how much one consumes, it is all the same. Such tactics will not work to cover up the accusations against you."

Joshi questioned Siddaramaiah, "You criticise Basavaraj Bommai in Shiggaon for not providing a single house, yet we have built new homes across Shiggaon and Savanur. Have you provided even one?"

BJP govt's Covid graft could be ₹3,000 cr: Priyank

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

RURAL Development Minister **Priyank Kharge** on Sunday criticised the previous BJP government for allegedly profiteering during the Covid pandemic and under-reporting deaths during the pandemic.

He said the scale of corruption could be in the range of Rs 3,000 crore. He was speaking a day after parts of a report by the Justice Michael D'Cunha's commission, constituted to probe the alleged Covid scam, were leaked. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao revealed on Saturday that the report implicates former chief minister BS Yediyurappa and then health minister B Sriramulu.

Kharge said that during the initial days of Covid, the BJP government on March 17, 2020 sanctioned Rs 416.48 crore for medical supplies. On March 18, the Health Department's Need Assessment Committee decided to procure 1.2 million PPE kits at Rs 2,117.53 per unit. The commerce and industries department claimed that Big Pharmaceutical and DHB Global Hong Kong quoted these

inflated prices. Officials wanted transparency, suggesting three different price options — yet their concerns were swept aside. Yediyurappa and Sriramulu allegedly okayed the overpriced deal. On April 2, Yediyurappa ordered 1,00,000 kits from DHB Global at Rs 2,117.53 per kit, costing Rs 21.18 crore, he alleged.

On April 10, two more direct orders were placed with DHB Global and Big Pharmaceutical, for buying three lakh PPE kits for Rs 62.57 crore, he said. He asked, "Why did the BJP's government buy from China? Just days before, Karnataka State Medical Supply Corporation had purchased kits locally at Rs 330.40 per kit which is seven times cheaper."

The government splurged an additional Rs 12 crore on transportation and paid the entire amount in advance to a barely established Chinese company, DHB Global, which vanished after Covid, the minister alleged.

More chilling is that the Directorate of Economics and Statistics recorded 2.29 lakh deaths in Karnataka in the first half of 2020, which surged to 4.26 lakh by mid-2021. Yet, the BJP government claimed only 37,206 deaths due to Covid, concealing around 120,000 lives lost, he said.

"This is not just corruption; it's mass negligence for profit. The Congress government will seek justice for every life lost to BJP's corruption," he said.

BYPOLLS: PUBLIC CAMPAIGNING ENDS TODAY

BENGALURU: Public campaigning for the November 13 bypolls to Shiggaon, Sandur and Channapatna Assembly constituencies will end at 5.30 pm on Monday. While the Congress has fielded former BJP MLC CP Yogeshwara against Nikhil Kumaraswamy, son of Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy, in Channapatna, the Grand Old Party has fielded Annapoorna, wife of Ballari MP E Tukaram, against BJP's Bangaru Hanumanthu. In Shiggaon, BJP's Bharat Bommai, son of Haveri MP and former CM Basavaraj Bommai, will face Congress' Yasir Ahmed Khan Pathan. The bypolls were necessitated following the election of Basavaraj Bommai (Shiggaon), HD Kumaraswamy (Channapatna) and E Tukaram (Ballari) to the Lok Sabha in this year's general elections. The Congress will hold a huge rally in Channapatna on Monday in which CM Siddaramaiah and his Cabinet colleagues will take part. In NDA, BJP and JDS will hold separate meetings.

ASSEMBLY BY ELECTION 2024 DECIDE

EC officials seize packets distributed to lure voters

BENGALURU: With just hours left for voting for the Assembly byelections, election commission officials seized packets, each containing a Rs 500 note, a prayer mat and pocket-sized Quran, at Mehdi Nagar in the Channapatna Assembly constituency on Saturday. A video of community leaders taking strong exception to the attack on their religious sentiments for political gains went viral. Returning Officer Binay, who is also Ramanagara assistant commissioner, confirmed to The New Indian Express that the seizure was made, but a complaint was not filed and an FIR not registered as those who were distributing the packets managed to escape. No complaint was also filed by any party, he added. Meanwhile, a video of Waqf Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan allegedly handing out a Rs 500 note to a woman during a roadshow has gone viral.

HDK took Rs1K cr from steel firms to fund polls: Chaluvarayaswamy

BENGALURU: Karnataka Agriculture Minister N Chaluvarayaswamy on Sunday alleged that Union Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries HD Kumarswamy has collected over Rs 1,000 crore from various steel manufacturing units across the country in the name of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to fund the NDA's Assembly elections in Maharashtra, Jharkhand and bypolls in Karnataka. "The BJP and its allies have become more desperate to win elections by any means, including adopting wrong means to win. Fearing loss, the BJP and its allies have decided to win the elections by disturbing cash to voters," he told the media in Channapatna. The minister demanded a probe by the Directorate of Enforcement and the Income Tax Department. He also appealed to the Election Commission of India to take cognisance of these allegations.

Cong will stop guarantees after bypolls, says Gowda

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

FORMER PM HD Deve Gowda, who has been campaigning extensively for his grandson and NDA candidate for Channapatna bypolls, Nikhil Kumaraswamy, on Sunday visited the residence of Syed Masan Shah Khadri, the religious leader at Aqil Shah Khadri Dargah, located in Channapatna's Peer Saab Galli in Tippu Nagar.

During his visit, Gowda sought support for Nikhil in the next week's bypolls and promised resolving the issues faced by the community if the latter is elected to the Assembly. The JDS patriarch further said that the Congress government in Karnataka will stop the five guarantee schemes after the upcoming bypolls to three Assembly constituencies. "This government is bankrupt. After the elections, they'll stop depositing money again. Of the five guarantees, one has already been withdrawn. They don't even have money to fill potholes in Bengaluru... people are furious," Gowda said, adding that the Congress government has emptied the treasury. "No Gruha Lakshmi funds are being deposited into the accounts of women across the state... only in Channapatna, the money has been credited... this has been done eyeing the bypoll," he said.

Former PM HD Deve Gowda poses for a selfie in Channapatna on Sunday | X

Meanwhile, Housing Minister BZ Zameer Ahmed Khan had also visited the members of the community to consolidate their support for Congress candidate CP Yogeeshwara.

Channapatna Assembly segment is home to about 25,000 Muslim voters.

The Kerala government has declared the premises of the Sabarimala temple and its nearby areas as 'liquor and drug-free zone'. Areas under Nilackal, Pampa and Sannidhanam Excise Range Offices will be liquor and drug-free zones from November 14, 2024 to January 21, 2025.

SL Prez talks firm on stopping TN fishermen

Dissanayake: Will ensure exploitation of marine resources does not happen, will protect rights of Sir Lankan fishers

PON VASANTH B A
@ Jaffna (Sri Lanka)

SRI Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, who addressed his first public meeting in Jaffna since coming to office in September, on Sunday took a firm stance against Indian fishermen "illegally" fishing in Sri Lankan waters.

Dissanayake was in the city a day before the campaign for the Sri Lankan parliamentary elections, scheduled for Thursday, comes to an end to canvas votes for his Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) -led National People's Power (NPP) alliance. In a well-attended meeting, he said Indian fishermen were destroying the marine resources that belong to the Tamil-populated northern region of Sri Lanka.

Stating that his government will ensure that such exploitation of marine resources does not happen and will protect the rights of Sri Lankan fishermen, he asked "Should we not?," to which the crowd responded with a resounding yes.

Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake assured Tamils that steps would be taken to return their land occupied by the Lankan govt, especially the military | EXPRESS

His speech comes in the backdrop of the arrest of 23 fishermen from Rameswaram and detention of three Indian trawlers by the Sri Lankan Navy on Sunday for illegally fishing in Lankan waters. This is the latest in a series of arrests. In a letter to the union government on October 23, urging its intervention in the release of the fishermen, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin had pointed out that 128 fishermen and 199 boats were in Sri Lankan custody.

While expectations were high on what the new president would promise to Tamils in the north and east, who face several problems even 15 years after the end of the civil war, Dissanayake made significant assurances — for the first time — on two important issues vis-a-vis land and political prisoners. He said steps would be taken to gradually return land still occupied by the Lankan government, especially the military, to the rightful owners. He also said political prisoners still lodged in prisons will be released. The two announcements drew the loudest cheers from the mostly Tamil crowd during the rally. However, the president did not speak about enforced disappearances, for which thousands of people are seeking justice in a democratic manner.

Although many Tamil parties have asked the NPP to clearly spell out out its stance on a political solution for Tamils in terms of devolution of more powers, Dissanayake refrained from the topic. Instead he said his alliance will ensure "full freedom" of Tamils. Highlighting the opening of a new road that had been under military control since the war, he said such measures will be carried out continuously through talks with the defence department to ensure the freedom of Tamils. Elections for the provincial councils will also be conducted soon, he said. He said "certain" Tamil political party leaders, who had not joined the NPP, had approached him to express their eagerness in joining the government after the presidential elections but quipped that they had "missed the bus".

NOT PRYING

Tracker-tagged vulture found near Kadamba Naval Base

AMIT S UPADHYE @ Hubballi

A VULTURE, which had a GPS tracker and was found in the vicinity of the Kadamba Naval Base in Karwar of Uttara Kannada district, created a flutter on Sunday as security officials wondered whether the bird was being used for espionage purposes.

But their suspicion was unfounded as the GPS tag on the bird was found to be fitted by the the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS). "The vulture was tagged for research purposes and there are records that similar GPS-tagged birds flying around Karwar. Its said that the vulture had been released from the Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve. The transmitter on its back bears the website address mahaforest.gov.in," a district administration official said. Naval base authorities had been tracking the bird and on Sunday, they managed to take its photos and videos and the GPS tag. Local residents along the riverbank in Karwar had taken photographs of the bird and informed naval authorities a day earlier. Naval authorities tried to catch the bird, but it flew away. Naval Base authorities are on a heightened level of alert as recently, five people, including officials and local labourers, were arrested for passing on sensitive information to enemy nations on Phase 2 of the Kadamba Naval Base and warships. Later, a drone was spotted flying over the Naval Base at night. The sighting of the bird only further pushed security officials to the edge.

The vulture which was found in Kadamba Naval Base in Karwar

"The locals informed the authorities as the Kaiga nuclear power plant and the Naval Base are situated here. The Karwar police, forest department and state and central intelligence agency officials arrived at the scene. When we zoomed in on the tracker with the camera, the details on the tracker could be seen," a district official said.

Beard row: Notices issued to college dean

ENS @Bengaluru

A SHOW-CAUSE notice was issued to the dean and director of the Hassan Institute of Medical Sciences following allegations by the Jammu and Kashmir Student Association (JKSA) that Kashmiri students at the Government College of Nursing in Holenarasipur were being forced to shave their beards. Medical education authorities warned the Principal of the nursing college, and instructed the institution to address such issues promptly and ensure they are not repeated.

The association raised concerns about the discriminatory practice with the CM Siddaramaiah and also brought it to the notice of opposition leader Rahul Gandhi, highlighting that it violated the students' religious and personal freedoms.

Kerala man dies in custody in Udupi, CID to probe case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Udupi

A 45-year-old labourer died in police custody in Brahmavara on Sunday after he was arrested the previous day for allegedly harassing a woman and her children. The deceased, Biju Mohan, was a migrant from Kollam in Kerala.

Udupi Superintendent of Police Dr Arun K said the Bramhavara police received a call at 7.45 pm on Saturday from Cherkady village, saying an unidentified man was allegedly harassing a woman and her children. The victim, accompanied by her brother, also filed a complaint, stating that the man entered her home and harassed her and her children.

A case was subsequently registered, and the accused was taken into custody. At 3.45 am, a sentry noticed Biju sitting motionless, with his head resting against the wall. He was immediately shifted to the Brahmavara Community Health Centre, but was declared brought dead.

The SP said Biju's family has been informed and they are expected to arrive soon. "A case will be registered based on their complaint. Since this is a case of a lock-up death, the CID will probe the case as per law. A post-mortem will be carried out by two medical teams and video recorded, and the inquest will be overseen by a judicial magistrate. All procedures will be followed as per rules and suitable action will be taken," he added.

ON THE FIELDS

A farmer sprinkles fertiliser in his paddy field in Tirunelveli | V KARTHIK ALAGU

VETERAN ACTOR DELHI GANESH PASSES AWAY

NARAYANI M @Chennai

VETERAN actor **Delhi Ganesh** passed away at the age of 80, leaving Tamil cinema bereft of one of its most prolific supporting actors. On Sunday, the character actor succumbed to age-related ailments, marking the end of an illustrious 48-year career. He brought life to diverse roles across genres in over 400 films, working with cinema's finest—from legends like Rajinikanth, Kamal Haasan, and Visu to newer icons like Vijay, Ajith, and Silambarasan.

Born Ganesan on August 1, 1944, Delhi Ganesh served in the Indian Air Force for a decade (1964-1974) before turning his passion for acting into a career. The 'Delhi' in his name became part of his identity after he joined the Delhi-based theatre group Dakshina Bharata Nataka Sabha. His last rites are scheduled for Monday.

PUBLIC NOTICE

INTIMATING FORMATION OF THE NITESH LOGOS APARTMENT OWNERS ASSOCIATION

It is hereby intimated to the public / interested parties at large that the owners of apartment units at Nitesh Logos, Aga Abbas Ali Road, Halasuru, Civil Station, Bengaluru 560 042, have constituted an association by the name of **Nitesh Logos Apartment Association.**

Members of the public who may be interested in purchasing, tenanting, or dealing with the apartment units at Nitesh Logos in any manner, may be pleased to obtain necessary approvals, permissions and clearances from the aforesaid Association directly. It is clarified, by this Notice, that no other body, association of persons, or entity has the right to represent the owners of Nitesh Logos.

The present notice is issued in public interest.

Any queries may be addressed to:
Email id: nlaoa24@gmail.com
Contact No : 9008533993
Address: Nitesh Logos Apartment Owners Association, 38 Aga Abbas Ali Road, Bengaluru - 560 042.

IN THE COURT OF THE XXII ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE AT BANGALORE (CCH-7)

O.S. No. 3228/2019

BETWEEN : Sri D. Munegowda and another, S/o. Late Doddanna, R/at. 38, D. Nagaraj Layout, Kavala Byrasandra, RT Nagar, Bangalore-560032. **...Plaintiffs**

Sri. Baldev Singh and another **...Defendants**

NOTICE TO L.Rs OF DEFENDANT No.1(a) & (b)

To : 1. Smt. Amrit Kaur, W/o Late. Baldev Singh, Aged about 62 years,

2. Sri. Angad Singh, S/o Late. Baldev Singh, Aged about 40 years, Both are residing at No.3789, "Begumpura", 8th Cross Road, Appareddypalya, Near Corner House, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560008.

The above named plaintiffs have filed the above suit for declaration and permanent injunction in respect of schedule property have in mentioned below. Therefore, Public Notice is cost for the appearance of above said L.Rs of defendant No.1 (a) & (b) before the said court **on 03.01.2025 at Bangalore at 11.00 A.M.** Therefore, you are hereby requested to appear before the court failing which you will be determined as exparte.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

A vacant area bearing old V.P. Katha No.573 and New Katha No.870, House List No.620, Measuring East to West 50 feet and North to South 40 feet situated at Kaval Byrasandra Gramathana, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore which is bounded as follows:-

East By : 40 feet Road (earlier 25 feet road), **West By :** Private Property bearing Sy.No.41, belonging to plaintiffs, **North By** : Property bearing house list No.621 (belonging to plaintiffs), **South By** : 25 feet passage belonging to plaintiffs.

Given under my hand and seal of this court on this 04.11.2024 at Bangalore.

By Order of the Court, Senior Sheristedar, City Civil Court, Bengaluru.
R.A. DEVANAND, Advocate
No.101/1, 1st 'B' Cross, Mount-Joy Extension, Hanumantha Nagar, Bangalore-560019.

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(Multi-State Scheduled Bank)

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Ph: 0824 - 2421076, Email: recovery.karnataka@bharatbank.co.in
Central Office: (Legal and Recovery) Goregaon (East), Mumbai - 400 063, Tel: 022-61890000/88

POSSESSION NOTICE

WHEREAS

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Bharat Co-operative Bank (Mumbai) Ltd., under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices upon the Borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The said Borrowers/Legal Heirs having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the said Borrowers/Legal Heirs in particular and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described hereinbelow in exercise of powers conferred on the undersigned under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this **05th day of November 2024.**

The said Borrowers/Legal Heirs in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the said property and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of **Bharat Co-operative Bank (Mumbai) Ltd.** for the following claim amounts with further interest and less amount paid thereafter if any.

SR NO	NAME OF THE BORROWER/ JOINT/CO-BORROWER/LEGAL HEIRS	DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE	NOTICE AMOUNT (Rs.)
1.	**Borrower :** **(i) M/s. In Art Creations Pvt Ltd** Directors & Joint/Co-Borrowers **(ii) Mr. Yashraj Ramakrishna** S/o. Mr. A Ramakrishna **(iii) Mrs. Gayathri Yashraj** W/o. Mr. Yashraj Ramakrishna Legal heirs: **iv) Mrs. Aditi Jyesht Verman(Wife & Legal heir of Late Jyesht Verman) v) Mr. Indra Verman (Son & Legal heir of Late Jyesta Verman) vi) Mrs. Savana Vermen(Daughter & Legal heir of Late Jyesta Verman)**	15/07/2024	**Rs.12,37,892/- (Rupees Twelve Lakh Thirty Seven Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninty Two) as on 30.06.2024 under Mortgage Loan Account No. 003232500000535 with future interest and other charges w.e.f 01.07.2024.**
2.	**Borrower : (i) M/s. Inart Infrastructure Partners & Joint Borrowers (ii) Mr. Yashraj Ramakrishna** S/o. Mr. A Ramakrishna **(iii) Mrs. Soumya** W/o. Mr. Vinaya N Salian **Joint/Co-Borrowers & Legal heirs : iv) Mrs. Aditi Jyesht Verman Prop.of M/s. Agnishwaatth Medical Equipments (Joint Borrower as well as Wife and Legal heirs Late Jyesht Verman) v) Mrs. Gayathri Yashraj W/o. Mr. Yashraj Ramakrishna (Daughter & Legal heir of Late Jyesta Verman) vi) Mr. Indra Verman (Son & Legal heir of Late Jyesta Verman) vii) Mrs.Savana Vermen (Daughter & Legal Heir of Late Jyesta Verman)**	15/07/2024	**(i) Rs. 2,12,22,318/- (Rupees Two Crore Twelve Lakhs Twenty Two Thousand Three Hundred and Eighteen) as on 04.07.2024 under Term Loan Account No. 007733510000110 with future interest and other charges w.e.f 05.07.2024. (ii) Rs.91,46,277/- (Rupees Ninety one Lakh Forty Six Thousand Two Hundred and Seventy Seven) as on 30.06.2024 under Cash Credit Limit A/c No.007713100000041, with future interest and other charges w.e.f. 01.07.2024. (iii) Rs.56,51,562/- (Rupees Fifty Six Lakh Fifty One Thousand Five Hundred and Sixty Two only) as on 30.06.2024 under Term Loan A/c No.007733600000026 with future interest and other charges w.e.f 01.07.2024**

The borrowers/mortgagor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the immovable Property

All that piece and parcel of immovable property known as Industrial Shed No.B-112, situated at Industrial Estate, Peenya 3rd stage of Peenya Indusrial Area within the liits of Nallakaderanahalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk standing on a plot of land measuring North to South 16.27 meters & East to West 32.40 meters in all measuring 527.14sq.meters (5673 sq.ft) comprising of an Industrial Shed admeasuring 5100sq.ft owned by late Mr.Jyesht Verman, Prop of M/s.Agnishwaath Medical Equipments and land **bounded by: East:** Road, **West**: Road, **North:** Shed No B-111, **South:** Plot No.P-23.

Date: 05.11.2024
Place: Bangalore

Sd/-
Chief Manager & Authorised Officer
Bharat Co-operative Bank (Mumbai) Ltd.

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK
(A scheduled commercial bank)
Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002.

Whereas you the below mentioned Borrower's, Co-Borrower's, Guarantor's and Mortgagors have availed loans from **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited,** by mortgaging your immovable properties. Consequent to default committed by you all, your loan account has been classified as **Non-performing Asset,** whereas **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** being a secured creditor under the Act, and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with rule 2 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued **Demand notice** calling upon the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors as mentioned in column No.2 to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with future interest thereon within **60 days** from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served on some of them for various reasons.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	Loan Account No. & Loan Amount	Details of the Security to be enforced	Date of NPA & Demand Notice date	Amount Due in Rs. / as on
1	**1) Mr. Venkatesh S, Also at: M/s. Shri Manjunath Bike Point, 2) Mr. Prashanth S, Also at: M/s. Bgs Global Hospitals, 3) Mr. Shanmugam K, 4) Mrs. R Sumithra**	Loan Account No. 33639420000857 33639430000784 33639970000014 Loan Amount: Rs.19,68,022/- Rs.4,91,909/- Rs.92,200/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and parcel of the property No.94, Grama Khatha No.162/1 and 7, E-Khatha property No.15020030190042077 3, Property No.4156/162/1/7/94 situated at Ramasandra Village, Sulikere Gram Panchayath, Kengeri Hobali, Bengaluru South Taluk, Presently within limits of BBMP and Bounded on measuring East to West 40 Feet (18.58 Meters) North to South 22 Feet (6.7056 Meters) Total 880 Sq.feet (81.75 Meters): **East by:** Site No.77 belongs to Lalithamma, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Site No.93, **South by:** Site No.95 belongs to Mrs. Tharini.	Date of NPA: 03-11-2024 Demand Notice Date: 07-11-2024	**Rs.22,03,870.00** (Rupees Twenty Two Lakh Three Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Only) **due as on 05-11-2024**
2	**1) M/s. VHK Enteprises,** Represented by its Partners **Dr. V Harshini, Mr. Krishna Raj, 2) M/s. Swasti Hospital,** Represented by its Proprietor **Dr. V Harshini, 3) Mrs. Harshini V,** Partner of **M/s. VHK Enteprises,** Proprietor of **M/s. Swasti Hospital, Also at: M/s. Swasti Hospital, Also at: M/s. VHK Enteprises, 4) Mr. Krishna Raj,** Partner of **M/s. Vhk Enterprises, Also at: M/s. VHK Enteprises, 5) Dr. Vuppaladadiam Suguna**	Loan Account No. 45348640003502 Loan Amount: Rs.1,51,00,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property: Item No.1:** All that piece and parcel of the Apartment bearing No.504, D Block, 5th Floor, "Aqua-1" constructed on the converted land bering Survey No.89/1, 92/2 & 105 Ozone Urbana Township, Kannamangala Village, Devanahalli, Bangalore-560067 and **Bounded on: East by:** Corridor & Open Space, **West by:** Open Space, **North by:** Open Space & **South by:** Unit D-503. **Measurement:** 937 Sq.ft., Super Built up Area along with Undivided share of land measuring 271 Sq.ft., out of the total extent measuring Acre 4-26.077 Guntas in the converted land bearing Survey No.89/1, 92/2 & 105. **Item No.2:** All that piece and parcel of the Apartment bearing No.502(D-502), D Block, 5th Floor, "Aqua-1" E Khatha No.15030200400120628, Kannamangala Grama Panchayath, constructed on the converted land bearing Survey No.89/1, 92/2 & 105. Situated at Kannamangala Village, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore District and **Bounded on: East by:** Unit D-501, **West by:** Open Space, **North by:** Corridor & Open Space, **South by:** Open Space & Unit E-505. Measurement: 1145 Sq.ft., Super Built up Area along with Undivided share of land measuring 331 Sq.ft., out of the total extent measuring Acre 4-26.077 Guntas in the converted land bearing Survey No.89/1, 92/2 & 105.	Date of NPA: 01-11-2024 Demand Notice Date: 07-11-2024	**Rs.1,43,15,967.55** (Rupees One Crore Forty Three Lakh Fifteen Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty Seven and Fifty Five Paisa Only) **due as on 05-11-2024**
3	**1) Mrs. Mahalakshmi T B, 2) Mr. Balaraju**	Loan Account No. 32509630000089 32509630000702 Loan Amount: Rs.10,50,000/- Rs.7,00,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and immovable property bearing Residential Site No.25 & 26 (Twenty Five & Twenty Six) and formed sites in Property No.61/60 (Sixty One Sub Sixty), Khatha No.590 (Five Hundred and Ninety), Measuring East to West 60 (Sixty) Feet and North to South 30 (Thirty) Feet in total measuring 1800 (One Thousand Eight Hundred) Sq.feet of Vacant site, situated at Gundur Village Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore-560049, which is **Bounded on the: East by:** Private Property, **West by:** Site No.27 (Twenty Seven), **North by:** Site No.38 & 39 (Thirty Eight & Thirty Nine) belongs to Mrs. VijayaThyagarajan, **South by:** 25 feet wide Road.	Date of NPA: 01-11-2024 Demand Notice Date: 07-11-2024	**Rs.17,05,096.71** (Rupees Seventeen Lakh Five Thousand Ninety Six and Seventy One Paisa Only) **due as on 05-11-2024**
4	**1) Mr. S Wasim Karim, 2) Mr. S Mustafa S**	Loan Account No. 31879630000097 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Corporation No.866/36, Measuring East to West 16 feet and North to South 24 feet, Situated at Gokula (L.C.R Colony) Anjaneya Temple Road, Yashwanthapura, Bengaluru Urban and **Bounded on: East by:** House belongs to Penchuiaiah, **West by:** Kennel, **North by:** Road & **South by:** House belongs to Muniyamma.	Date of NPA: 01-11-2024 Demand Notice Date: 07-11-2024	**Rs.3,91,207.70** (RupeesThree Lakh Ninety One Thousand Two Hundred Seven and Seventy Paisa Only) **due as on 05-11-2024**
5	**1) Mr. Nagaraju M K, 2) Mrs. Padma N**	Loan Account No. 47059440000287 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.121/542/63, E-Khatha No.152900200900400115 measuring East to West 24.38 meter and North to South 9.14 meter, situated at Marasandra Village, Kodihalli Grama Panchayath, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District and **Bounded on: East by:** Property belongs to Kullamma, **West by:** Public Road, **North by:** Property belongs to Shivarathnamma, **South by:** Property belongs to Maramma.	Date of NPA: 30-09-2024 Demand Notice Date: 07-11-2024	**Rs.3,15,699.00** (Rupees Three Lakh Fifteen Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Nine Only) **due as on 05-11-2024**
6	**1) Mr. Narasimhamurthy H, 2) Mrs. Jayamma G**	Loan Account No. 46989630000751 Loan Amount: Rs.4,00,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Assessment No.226/296/2, E Katha No.150300300900320226, Situated at Kodihalli Village comes within the Channadevi Agrahara Village Panchayath, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Measuring East to West: 5.0292 Meters, North to South: 16.764 Meters, Totally Measuring 84.31 Sq.mtrs. and **Bounded on the: East by:** Sandu, **West by:** Bylappa House, **North by:** Charandi, **South by:** Road.	Date of NPA: 01-11-2024 Demand Notice Date: 07-11-2024	**Rs.3,80,767.38** (Rupees Three Lakh Eighty Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty Seven and Thirty Eight Paisa Only) **due as on 05-11-2024**
7	**1) Mrs. Anjali J,** Prop. **M/s. Balaji Chicken Center, Also at: Mrs. Anjali J, 2) Mr. Jaganathan S Subramani**	Loan Account No. 32509440000303 32509410000741 32509410001072 Loan Amount: Rs.7,00,000/- Rs.5,00,000/- Rs.1,50,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and parcel of immovable property Apartment bearing Site No.2, Serial No.1794, Property No.650/1/2, Kata No.650/1/2, Measuring East to West: 30 Feet North to South: 25 Feet Totally 750 Sq.feet. Situated at Rayasandra Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk Bangalore District and **Bounded on the: East by:** Site No.2A, **West by:** Private Property, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Site No.1.	Date of NPA: 01-11-2024 Demand Notice Date: 07-11-2024	**Rs.12,46,970.99** (Rupees Twelve Lakh FortySix Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy and Ninety Nine Paisa Only) **due as on 05-11-2024**

Notice is therefore given to the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor & Mortgagor as mentioned in Column No.2, calling upon them to make payment of the aggregate amount as shown in column No.6, against all the respective Borrower/ Co-Borrower within **60 days** of Publication of this notice as the said amount is found payable in relation to the respective loan account as on the date shown in Column No. 6. It is made clear that if the aggregate amount together with future interest and other amounts which may become payable till the date of payment, is not paid, **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** shall be constrained to take appropriate action for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described in Column No.4. Please note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available to **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** against the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors of the said financials under the law, you are further requested to note that as per section 13(13) of the said act, you are restrained/ prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above security or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise of the secured asset without prior consent of Secured Creditor.

Date: 11.11.2024, Place: Bangalore & Bangalore Rural **Sd/- Authorised Officer, For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited**

EDITORIAL

True patriotism springs from a belief in the dignity of the individual, freedom and equality not only for Americans but for all people on earth

Eleanor Roosevelt

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

JET AIRWAYS INSOLVENCY A BLOW TO IBC'S CREDENTIALS

AFTER five years of trials and tribulations, the grounded airline Jet Airways' wings have been clipped. Any hopes of a revival of the airline, which went defunct in 2019, were dashed after the Supreme Court recently ordered liquidation of the company. This was after the successful bidder—Jalan-Kalrock Consortium—failed to make even the full payment of the first tranche of ₹350 crore, raising doubts over the commercial wisdom of the lenders. It appears that the lenders and the resolution professional did not do proper due diligence before approving the bid; they seem to have considered only the bid amount (over ₹1,300 crore) rather than the viability of the bid.

This is not the first time a successful resolution applicant (SRA) has failed to make the 'promised' payments to lenders. In the past, UK-based Liberty House had failed to pay the resolution amount in Amtek Auto and Adhunik Metaliks insolvency case. However, the SRA's failure in such a large insolvency case like Jet Airways'—where over ₹7,800 crore creditors' money was involved—raises questions about the efficacy of the whole process.

Jet Airways is the second airline after Go Air—which is on the verge of liquidation—that failed to get resolved through the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code. It is the stated goal of the IBC to seek the revival of a company in distress through sale to a financially stronger bidder. However, the process has been marred not only by delays and frivolous litigation but also by unscrupulous resolution applicants who try to game the system. IBC has been touted as one of the biggest reforms implemented in the last decade. While it has successfully resolved many large bad debt cases and helped the banking system rid itself of huge non-performing assets, it has seen its own share of flaws. The law completes eight years this December but the regulator and the government have been unable to iron out the kinks. The failure to resolve Jet Airways' insolvency case despite the approval of the resolution plan is a big blow to the IBC, and it calls for a course correction.

GOVT MUST LEARN FROM MISTAKES IN SABARIMALA

THE annual Sabarimala pilgrimage season starts on November 16 and what comes to mind is the unprecedented chaos at the hill shrine during the last season. The temple and the paths leading to it had witnessed dangerous crowding and utter disarray. Many devotees had to return without having a darshan owing to the unmanageable situation there. Poor crowd management, inadequate arrangements to transport pilgrims, deployment of police personnel inexperienced in handling crowds, and a lack of coordination between police and employees of the Travancore Devaswom, which manages the temple, were evident during the initial days of the pilgrimage. Though the situation was brought under control in the later stages, the experience has left a bitter taste and there are apprehensions about how this season will proceed.

On their part, the Kerala government and the Travancore Devaswom Board started preparations for the pilgrimage months earlier this time around and have put in place some new crowd control measures. While the decision to restrict the number of pilgrims allowed per day to 80,000 (70,000 through online registrations and 10,000 through spot bookings) and insist on them carrying Aadhaar cards could be effective in checking the flow, engagement of retired police and fire force men in addition to 13,000-odd police personnel could lend expertise and dexterity to the teams handling crowds. A team of 1,000 has been deployed for sanitation duties. All three entry points to the shrine will have spot-booking facilities. Digital displays have been installed at various points to monitor the flow of devotees in real time. Parking facilities at Nilackal have been expanded to accommodate 10,000 vehicles, an increase from the last season's 7,500. In another welcome move, the temple board has introduced insurance coverage for all devotees.

While efforts are commendable, a lot needs to be done if the temple has to be made fully equipped to handle the rush. It needs better facilities and development in sync with the area's eco-sensitive nature. The government's promise is that no devotee will have to go back without darshan. That's easier said than done but the authorities now have the responsibility of ensuring that, having, understandably, learnt from mistakes. The two-month-long Mandala-Makaravilakku season is the busiest at the hill shrine. What's important is to monitor the situation continuously and make sure that it never goes out of control. Equally important is to handle the crowds with sensitivity. The authorities cannot afford missteps and any lapse could have serious consequences.

QUICK TAKE

EYES ON THE NORTHEAST

INDIA cannot afford another violent strife in the Northeast. Yet, that is what was explicitly threatened last week. Twenty-seven years after agreeing to a hard-wrangled ceasefire and a decade after signing a pact on the way forward, the powerful Isak-Muivah faction of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland has warned of taking up arms again. Its 90-year-old chief Thuingaleng Muivah has accused New Delhi of betraying the 2015 accord. The Centre has been talking to seven other Naga organisations in recent months. If it thinks peace can be maintained without taking all the groups along, it will not have learnt much from the area's troubled history.

Love him or hate him, Donald Trump never pretended to be anything other than what he was. He led an almost miraculous comeback, unprecedented in recent history

WHY TRUMP WON AND HARRIS LOST IN U.S. ELECTIONS

MAKARAND R PARANJAPE

Author and commentator

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

SOURAV ROY

HINDSIGHT, as the saying goes, is always 20-20. Now that Kamala Harris has lost, the honourable members of the US left-liberal commentariat, who were pushing almost delusionally for her victory till late Tuesday night, are now suddenly tripping over themselves to explain why.

Besides having a meltdown, that is. It's baffling, if not infuriating, some who are blaming convicted felon and now president-elect, Donald Trump, for standing in the way of the first woman, in addition to a person of colour, becoming president.

And he did it earlier too, by blocking another woman, Hillary Clinton. As if that is the only necessary qualification or desideratum for demanding the vote of citizens. No forgiveness, no reconciliation with 'Make America Great Again', some of them pledge, taking their cue from Harris' own acceptance speech. The fight must go on!

If the same experts and pollsters had felt the pulse of the people, they would have known all along that though she had an early advantage which, ironically, was because of her late start, she never really managed to connect with the people or relate to their problems. Her feel-good, inclusive rhetoric, frequent flip-flops over key issues, notoriously nonsensical word-salads, preachy and pompous repetitions, and incessant virtue signalling did not go down well with the people.

Though self-identified as black and working class, she came across as anything but that. With two privileged parents, both PhDs, the father a professor of economics at the prestigious University of California at Berkeley to boot, it was hard to pass off as anything but privileged. Her rich Jewish husband, former celebrity lawyer Douglas Emhoff, and Harris are anything but working class.

The couple have declared assets of over $8 million, $850,000 in cash, and a $4 million home. Harris' own income, just from book royalties, is upwards of $400,000. Trying to pass off as a working class woman of colour only made her seem hypocritical.

Donald Trump, on the other hand, did not pretend to be anything other than what he was—a self-believing, hard-working, incredibly tough, billionaire capitalist. Although always narcissistic and frequently obnoxious, he came across as much more human and authentic, despite his disparaging and misogynist jibes at his opponent.

Love him or hate him, he was real, even though larger than life. Not fake or phoney. What is more, Americans prefer strong and decisive leaders over ideologically self-righteous and politically correct ones.

That is why the "post-mortem" justifications of analysts now seem equally hollow and self-serving. Why don't they admit they were wrong, the pollsters were wrong, and the Democratic party's own surveys were wrong? Everyone was guilty of collective and self-indulgent misprision. They believed their own mythmaking, all the while ignoring what the ordinary voting public thought, believed, or wanted.

The truth is that Trump led an almost miraculous comeback, unprecedented in recent history, rising from the vindictive politics of vendetta lawfare and assassination attempts to lead the broadest and most diverse coalition seen in American politics. His appeal to African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanics, and working men of all ages and races cut swathes through traditional Democratic party strongholds. He spearheaded, as he himself boasted in his victory speech, one of the greatest political movements America has known.

His clean sweep of the 'democratic wall' states of Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and other crucial battleground states including Georgia, Nevada, Arizona, and North Carolina meant Harris had no chance at all. In the end, Trump not only won the electoral college decisively, but also the popular vote convincingly. What is more, both the Senate and most likely the House will now be Republican controlled, not to mention the Supreme Court. No American president has been reelected, after losing an election, with such a mandate.

Going back to Harris's loss, it can be attributed to a confluence of factors including economic dissatisfaction, campaign strategy, voter demographics, and broader political dynamics. One of the most significant factors was the prevailing economic climate. Despite the US not being in a recession, many Americans felt the pinch of economic policies that seemed disconnected from their everyday struggles.

Inflation was a persistent issue following global recovery efforts post-pandemic, affecting the cost of living significantly. The Biden administration, of which Harris was a part, was often blamed for these economic woes, even if not entirely responsible. Voters tend to vote with their wallets, and the perception that the economy was not working for the average American was pivotal. In that sense, the vote came not so much out of the wallet but the grocery bag.

As everyone says, "It is economics, stupid." But this time around, Harris lost though the economy has been pretty strong.

Harris's historic candidacy as a woman of colour brought identity politics to the forefront. While this was a source of inspiration for many, it also became a point of contention. Moreover, the Democratic party's focus on 'woke' social issues did not resonate with their demographics. On the contrary, blue-collar voters and minority groups who felt their concerns were sidelined reached against this strategy.

But if there was one issue where Harris was wrong from the very start, it was illegal immigration. Both first-generation naturalised citizens, who are hardworking and law-abiding, as well as established voters, resented millions of unverified and unchecked hordes gatecrashing into their country and using up hard-earned taxpayer dollars. 'Border czar' Harris couldn't shake off her association with and support for open borders—and, should we say, boarders?

Instead of fading away after losing to Joe Biden, Trump is back with a bang. It remains to be seen how he will change America and the world. Is MAGA just an empty slogan or does it have real content, backed up by major policy shifts and power plays?

On a more personal note, I can bask, even if momentarily, in the satisfaction of calling this one right: I had predicted that it would not be a photo finish as the pollsters and pundits had predicted. Trump would win with a convincing margin. He did. With a landslide.

(Views are personal)
(Tweets @MakrandParanspe)

DELIVERANCE AT THE HANDS OF THE TEACHER OF THE WORLD

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

TODAY is apparently Kamsa Vadh Day, the anniversary of when Krishna killed Kamsa and reinstated Ugrasena as the king of Mathura. This festival is observed on Kartik Shukla Dashami, the tenth day of the bright fortnight of the lunar month of Kartik. It is a local festival in the Braj region, centred in Mathura. But its resonances are shared by every believer in India.

I have read that Krishna was but 11 years and six months old when he killed Kamsa. This was after he and Balarama vanquished the mighty wrestlers Chanura and Mushtika set up by Kamsa to kill the divine children.

Though Kamsa was obsessed with killing his nephew Krishna, his fixation actually led to his *sharanagati* or deliverance by wholly thinking of God. So, Kamsa Vadh kindles thoughts of Krishna's ultimate teaching, which is *sharanagati*—to offer every word and deed to him in total trust. He says this to Arjuna in the Bhagavad Gita 18:66: '*Sarva-dharman parityajya mam ekam sharanam vraja aham tvam sarva-papebhyo mokshayishyami ma shuchah*', meaning, 'Let go of all other processes and surrender to me, I shall deliver you from all consequences of sin. Don't be afraid'.

But Arjuna was a prince of divine origin and Krishna's close friend. Does this assurance apply to us frail, everyday mortals?

We find the answer in the first verse of the famous *Sri Krishnashtakam*, author and date unknown. It says: '*Vasudeva sutam devam/Kamsa Chanura mardanam/Devaki paramanandam/Krishnam vande jagat gurum*', meaning, 'Salutations to the teacher of the world, Krishna; God, who appeared as the son of Vasudeva; who killed Kamsa and Chanura; who gave immense joy to Devaki'.

Krishna, teacher of the world—that includes you and me, not just ancient princes.

Meanwhile, another *Gita* comes to mind. It's from the unlikeliest source; namely, Kamsa. We find it in the *Srimad Bhagavatam*. When Yogmaya slips out of Kamsa's death-grasp in Mathura jail, she flies up, takes the form of an eight-armed goddess, tells Kamsa his killer is born and alive elsewhere, and vanishes.

They say any association with anything holy improves us. That is why we are urged to seek the company of the good and reject the bad. This is seen to be true in Kamsa's case. That brief contact with Yogmaya deeply affects Kamsa. He feels sorry and ashamed. He uncuffs Devaki and Vasudeva and tearfully begs their pardon for treating them so cruelly. He then delivers a potted *Gita* himself on the delusional effects of attachment and desire, the harm caused by the ignorance of ego, and the impermanent nature of the physical body compared to the eternal nature of the soul.

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

> Krishna was but 11 years and six months old when he killed Kamsa. Though Kamsa was obsessed with killing his nephew Krishna, his fixation actually led to his *sharanagati* or deliverance by wholly thinking of God

Alas, the fit of goodness passes when Kamsa returns to his courtiers, who encourage his dark side. His moment of surrender to good is overtaken by plots to find and kill his appointed killer. But as a result, Kamsa can think of nothing but Krishna. Without meaning to, he becomes centred on God. It's a strange route to *sharanagati* but that's how it is.

Consider the dark history behind it. The grim circumstances of Krishna's birth in jail, and Yogmaya's warning to Kamsa that his killer is alive, put Krishna in danger at once. He killed his first demon when he was only seven days old, by sucking the life out of Putana's poisoned breast.

The Yadavas in their bewilderment and love normalised baby Krishna's feats, but a modern person shudders to think of how many attempts were made, and what powerful forces were sent to kill that baby.

Krishna was barely three months old when he killed Shakatasura the cart demon. This demon entered an ordinary wooden handcart and lurked there, waiting for an opportunity to run over Krishna. But Krishna, who was left under it by Yashoda, kicked it with his baby foot, killing the demon on the spot.

After that, Krishna was whirled away by Trinavarta the tornado demon. He tried to dash Krishna to death by dropping him from a great height. But the infant grew so heavy that Trinavarta himself was dragged down. He hit a boulder when he fell and died instantly.

Vatsasura, the calf demon blended in with Nanda's herds disguised as a tender young calf, hoping to kill Krishna when the chance arose. But Krishna recognised him. To the horror of the cowherds, who loved their cattle and never mistreated them, Krishna seized the demon calf by its hindlegs and dashed it to death against a tree. The demon's real form appeared when he died and only then did the cowherds realise the truth.

Bakasura, the crane demon, was Putana's brother and a close friend of Kamsa. He appeared as an oversized crane and tried to pierce Krishna with his sharp beak. But Krishna wrenched his beak apart until it snapped, and Bakasura died.

Aghasura, the eldest brother of Bakasura and Putana, then assumed the form of a monstrous snake. He opened his jaws wide like a cave, hoping to swallow Krishna. A number of little *gopa* boys even trooped in unknowingly. But Krishna killed Aghasura with fierce blows and saved them.

Next, Arishtasura, the bull demon, charged at Krishna to trample him to death. Krishna seized him by the horns and threw him back 18 paces. Arishtasura charged again and this time, Krishna killed him.

If we think about it, Kamsa's deliverance at Krishna's hands and Krishna's promise of *sharanagati* are backgrounded by all the evil Krishna fought and destroyed. An enduring message that God delivers.

(Views are personal)
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MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Trustworthy partner

Ref: *Modi & Trump: Made for each other* (Nov 10). Donald Trump delivered on many of his campaign promises to the people, which may be one of the reasons he won the polls. Trump has openly declared that India is a trustworthy partner in the economic and security sphere.
V Venkitasubramanian, Coimbatore

Twin leaders

Both Modi and Trump stand on the same platform today, sticking to their convictions with clear-cut agendas. Both of them vehemently oppose illegal immigration, which paves the way for the creation of cultural anarchy and disruption of law and order.
R Pichumani, Kumbakonam

Arithmetic accuracy

Ref: *D Y Chandrachud: An unforgettable legacy on balance* (Nov 10). The author dexterously lists out the milestones in the tenure of CJI D Y Chandrachud, citing numerous cases. People generally hope for impeccability in judicial pronouncements, but arithmetic accuracy should not be expected. The adverse remark on one of the most articulate judges, V R Krishna Iyer, could have been avoided.
S Madhavan Thampi, Haripad

Chandrachud's legacy

The column beautifully captured the essence of Justice Chandrachud's remarkable legacy and his unwavering commitment to upholding the Constitution. It adeptly conveyed the judge's ability to strike a balance between individual rights and societal interests. His unwavering dedication to justice, equality, and dignity serves as a beacon for future generations.
Raju Kolluru, Kakinada

Veteran actor

The passing away of veteran actor Delhi Ganesh has been a shock to fans and the industry. He was one of the rare talents who brought respectability to the field by his magnetic screen presence. His professional approach towards acting from the beginning paved the way for a glorious career. He turned himself into a fine character artist and used to have a fine sense of humour in delivery of dialogues.
A P Thiruvadi, Chennai

Industry loss

The demise of character artist Delhi Ganesh is a huge loss to the South Indian film industry. He worked in over 400 films, enacting a whole gamut of roles. His performances as the betel chewing mridangist in *Sindhu Bhairavi* the strict cook in *Michael Madana Kama Rajan* and the besotted lover in *Avvai Shanmugi* will remain green in one's memory forever.
C V Aravind, Bengaluru

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Yogi Adityanath @myogiadityanath
Samajwadi Party has become a production house for nurturing mafia and criminals. From where the worst criminals, mafia and rapists are born.

Shashi Tharoor @ShashiTharoor
In all fairness, the centrist parties in MVA have made it clear they will only give what the state can afford, though they plan to increase the amount available by eliminating the windfalls currently enjoyed by the super-rich.

Sanjay Jha @JhaSanjay
Ladies and gentlemen, the longer the BJP continues in power, the more our country becomes like a banana republic.

Centre to bolster CRPF's anti-terror squad in J&K

100 young personnel to be deployed around Pulwama and Budgam

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

AMID a surge in terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir, the Centre has decided to further strengthen the CRPF's Anti-Terror Squad (ATS) by adding 100 young personnel to the squad already deployed in the union territory (UT) equipped with latest weapons, officials said on Sunday.

The selected young personnel will be deployed in two key areas around Pulwama and Budgam, the officials said, adding that the teams will also be led by young commanders.

"Two young platoons each consisting of 50 personnel will be formed and deployed around Budgam and Pulwama soon. These platoons will focus on anti-terror operations in Kashmir. They will be equipped with special weapons," a senior official of the home ministry, wishing not to be named.

It is to be noted that the Quick Action Team (QAT) of the Central Reserve Police Force has already been deployed in the Valley and they are equipped with highly sophisticated weapons, equipment, and vehicles.

"The process of acquiring additional specialised weapons and equipment has already been initiated," the official said, adding that this was part of a big plan in which "young platoons will be deployed to deal with terrorists in future."

The CRPF has faced challenges due to an ageing command structure and a shortage of young commandos in its elite units | PTI

The CRPF has faced challenges due to an ageing command structure and a shortage of young commandos in its elite units, officials said. The force has had to repeatedly extend the age limit for commanders as it struggled to recruit the desired officials, they said.

The CRPF's Valley QAT and CoBRA (Commando Battalions for Resolute Action) are the most decorated units among all central armed forces, earning the highest number of gallantry medals each year. Officers and jawans from these units have also been awarded Shaurya Chakra and Kirti Chakra for their bravery.

According to officials, the QAT in the Valley has been equipped to operate effectively on the basis of intelligence inputs provided to them and quickly act during any situation arising out of terror attacks. The team provides additional support to the overall security architecture in the Valley.

After the grenade attack in Sringar on last Sunday, another terror attack was done in Kishtwar in which two Village Defence Guards were killed. Security forces recovered their bodies a day after they were shot dead by terrorists.

Russia deputy PM to visit India today, hold bilateral talks

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

RUSSIA'S first Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov will arrive in India on a two-day visit on Monday.

He is scheduled to take part in the plenary session of a business forum in Mumbai on Monday and also meet external affairs minister S Jaishankar at an intergovernmental commission meeting in Delhi on Tuesday. Manturov will also hold several bilateral discussions during the visit.

"As part of the visit, he will take part in the plenary session of the Russian-Indian Business Forum in Mumbai on November 11. The event is aimed at expanding cooperation between entrepreneurs of the two countries," according to the Russian Embassy.

The business forum will include thematic sessions on industrial cooperation, transport and logistics, finance, digital technologies, and interregional ties. This is being organised by the Business Council for Cooperation with India and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

On Tuesday, Manturov will visit Delhi, where he is set to meet Jaishankar. They will hold the 25th session of the Intergovernmental Russia-India Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technical and Cultural Cooperation.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had visited Kazan in Russia to attend the BRICS Summit in last October. During the visit, he had thanked President Vladimir Putin, the people of the country and their government's hospitality.

Business talks

Russia's Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov will visit Mumbai on Monday to attend the plenary session of Russian-Indian Business Forum. The forum, being organised by the Business Council for Cooperation with India and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, will include thematic sessions on industrial cooperation, transport and logistics, finance, digital technologies, and inter-regional ties.

POWER GAMES

SHAHID FARIDI
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Moscow messaging

NEW AVIATION DEAL ON THE CARDS

Denis Manturov, Russia's First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry, is likely to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday evening to discuss business and defense cooperation between the two countries. Manturov is visiting India for the meeting of the India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technical, and Cultural Cooperation, where he will join External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar. India and Russia are collaborating in areas such as oil and gas, defense, railways, and banking, among others. The two countries are facing issues in some of these areas that need resolution. India has continued its business ties with Russia even after Western countries imposed sanctions due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Modi and Manturov are expected to discuss the progress of joint venture projects and how to remove the roadblocks therein. According to sources, Russia aims to expand its cooperation with India in defence and nuclear fields and seeks expeditious implementation of projects already signed. Sources also indicate that the two countries may sign a new aviation deal. Besides the Prime Minister, Manturov is also likely to meet defence minister Rajnath Singh, commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal and railways minister Ashwini Vaishnav. He will also inaugurate a new Russian Exports Centre at the Russian Embassy in New Delhi in order to give boost to Indian exports to Russia.

Four years on, govt keeps draft amendment to drugs ad law in cold storage

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

FOUR years after it was proposed, the health ministry has been sitting over its draft to amend the Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisement) Act, 1954, which is aimed at taking stringent action against misleading advertisements, including that of Ayush medicines.

The ministry had proposed the draft amendment after concerns were raised over the effectiveness of the Act.

The draft amendment also widened the scope of the Act by introducing 24 diseases and disorders, including the fairness of skin, improvement in the height of kids and adults, premature ageing, and drugs for treatment for enhancing sexual performance.

In an RTI reply dated November 7, the ministry said, "...It is still pending... No further noting is available."

The ministry's response came after the Supreme Court's severe drubbing of yoga guru Baba Ramdev for circulating misleading advertisements of his Ayush products, which included eye drops, claiming that they treat glaucoma or cataracts, double vision, colour vision, retinitis pigmentosa, and night blindness. According to the DMR Act of 1954, advertising such claims is prohibited.

Kerala-based Dr KV Babu said he had filed a fresh RTI on November 4, keeping in mind the apex court warning to Patanjali Ayurved that they would "come down heavily" on them if they are found to violate any of its orders on misleading ads of its Ayush products.

"The Centre has been sitting over its proposed draft amendment to the DMR Act for more than four years. There has been no movement of file in last two years," he said.

The amendment to the DMR Act, 1954, which prohibits the advertisement for specific purposes of remedies and treatments alleged to possess magic qualities, was proposed by the ministry on February 3, 2020. This Act applies to all drugs, including Ayurvedic, Siddha, Unani and homoeopathy.

Sanjiv Khanna to be sworn in as 51st Chief Justice of India today

SUCHITRA K MOHANTY @ New Delhi

JUSTICE Sanjiv Khanna, who has been part of the Supreme Court's several landmark judgments — including scrapping of electoral bonds scheme and the upholding of the abrogation of Article 370 — will be sworn in as the 51st Chief Justice of India (CJI) on Monday.

President Droupadi Murmu will administer the oath of office to him at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in a ceremony scheduled for 10 am.

Justice Khanna will succeed Justice DY Chandrachud, who retired on Sunday after working for two years. Justice Khanna is set to retire on May 13, 2025, after six months in office, upon reaching the age of 65.

On October 17, the CJI recommended to the Centre that Justice Khanna, the senior-most Supreme Court Judge, be appointed as his successor.

Justice Khanna was enrolled as an advocate with the Bar Council of Delhi in 1983. He has regularly appeared in the High Court and tribunals in diverse fields.

He had also argued a number of criminal cases in the Delhi HC as an Additional Public Prosecutor, and on appointment by the Court as amicus curiae. For about 7 seven years, he served as the senior standing counsel for the Income Tax Department in the Delhi HC. In 2004, he was appointed as the Standing Counsel (Civil) for the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Elevated as an additional judge of the Delhi High Court in 2005, he was made a permanent judge in 2006. Justice Khanna, who led the top court bench in many cases, had delivered various judgments, including that of granting interim bail to Arvind Kejriwal.

Justice Khanna was born on May 14, 1960. He studied law at the Campus Law Centre, Delhi University. After graduating, he enrolled as an advocate in the Bar Council of Delhi in 1983. In 2004, he was appointed as Delhi's Standing Counsel for civil law matters at the Delhi HC.

On 25 June 2005, he was appointed as an Additional Judge of the Delhi High Court and became a permanent judge on February 20, 2006.

On 18 January 2019, Justice Khanna was elevated to the Supreme Court. He has authored 117 judgments and has been a part of 456 benches so far. In 2023, Justice Khanna delivered a concurring opinion in a five-judge Bench decision that upheld the validity of the abrogation of Article 370. On October 24, the Centre notified Justice Khanna's appointment as the next CJI.

117 verdicts, 456 benches

On 18 January 2019, Justice Khanna was elevated to the Supreme Court. He has authored 117 judgments and has been a part of 456 benches so far. In 2023, Justice Khanna delivered a concurring opinion in a five-judge Bench decision that upheld the validity of the abrogation of Article 370. On October 24, the Centre notified Justice Khanna's appointment as the next CJI.

Threat to end 27-yr ceasefire

CENTRE MAY SEND ENVOY TO CALM ANGRY NSCN

The Union government is likely to send an envoy to calm the leadership of the National Socialist Council of Nagalim, which has threatened to end the 27-year ceasefire and resume armed struggle for a sovereign Nagaland. The demand for accepting a separate flag and Constitution for Nagaland is the cause of the latest standoff between the NSCN and the Union government. In a letter dated November 7, NSCN general secretary Th Muivah said: "The cornerstone for the honourable political agreement between India and Nagalim is respecting and honouring the letter and spirit of the Framework Agreement, wherein, amongst others, the Nagalim sovereign national flag and Nagalim sovereign national constitution are duly recognised and acknowledged." The Union government had signed the Framework Agreement with the NSCN on August 3, 2015. It is, however, reluctant to accede to the demand of a separate flag and constitution. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has, in fact, launched a scathing attack on the Congress for supporting the National Conference government in Jammu and Kashmir that has passed a resolution for the restoration of Article 370, which will prevent full adoption of the Indian constitution by the state. The Union government has been trying to persuade the NSCN leadership to give up its demand for a separate flag and constitution. With the NSCN threatening violence, the government is likely to send an envoy to engage its leadership to find a mutually acceptable peaceful solution to the 77-year-old issue. According to sources, the government is unlikely to officially engage a third party to resolve the difference, as demanded by the NSCN.

EXPRESS READ

Waqf panel's tour meets lack quorum: MPs

Several opposition MPs of the Joint Parliament Committee on the Waqf (Amendment) Bill have accused the panel chairman of going ahead with a tour of states despite his meetings lacking even the quorum. JPC chairman Jagdambika Pal rejected opposition members' contention, asserting that 'study tours' of parliamentary panels are an informal exercise and are not bound by formalities like meeting the quorum.

UP govt rejects premature release plea of gangster Babloo Srivastava

SUCHITRA K MOHANTY @ New Delhi

THE UP government has informed the Supreme Court that it has rejected the latest premature release plea of gangster Om Prakash Srivastava, alias **Babloo Srivastava**, who is serving a life sentence for the 1993 murder of an additional customs collector.

Additional Advocate General Garima Prasad told a two-judge bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Augustine George Masih, that the gangster was convicted of serious offences, including under the anti-terror law.

She contended that Srivastava approached the court with "unclean hands" without disclosing the status of the pleas he had filed for premature release. "He has been filing petitions for remission every now and then. His first petition was dismissed in 2016," she said.

In its November 8 order, the bench asked Srivastava's counsel to file the orders and case records of all the petitions he has filed to date.

Srivastava, currently incarcerated in Bareilly Central jail, has sought direction from the apex court for the state government to consider his plea for premature release. The latest petition, which was rejected on November 6, was filed on June 24, 2021.

Once associated with underworld don Dawood Ibrahim, Srivastava eventually became his enemy. He was caught in Singapore by investigating agencies and extradited to India in 1995. He was wanted in 42 cases, including murder and abduction.

Petition rejected earlier

Om Prakash Srivastava, also known as Babloo Srivastava, who is currently lodged in the Bareilly Central jail, has sought direction from the Supreme Court to the Uttar Pradesh government to consider his petition for premature release. The latest petition, which was rejected on November 6, was filed on June 24, 2021.

On September 30, 2008, the gangster was sentenced to a life term by a special TADA court in Kanpur in connection with the 1993 murder of customs officer LD Arora in Allahabad. The case was handed over to the CBI.

Initially, the don was lodged in Naini Central Jail and then on June 11, 1999, he was transferred to the Bareilly jail.

Srivastava asserted that he has served over 26 years in prison and has good conduct, making him entitled to premature release as per the Uttar Pradesh government's policy.

Navy's women circumnavigators reach Australia

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

THE Indian Navy's sailing vessel Tarini, which is undertaking a global circumnavigation expedition, reached its first port of call in Fremantle, Australia on Saturday after a challenging 39-day voyage at sea.

The expedition, christened Navika Sagar Parikrama II, was flagged off from Goa by Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi on October 2.

The vessel covered a distance of 4,900 nautical mile (nm) from Goa, crossing the equator on October 16 and the tropic of capricorn on October 27.

"During this 38-day nonstop voyage, the Indian Navy duo Lt Cdr Dilna K and Lt Cdr Roopa A encountered a range of weather conditions from calm to severe, facing winds up to 40 knots and sea state of 6," the Navy said on Sunday.

"Throughout the journey, the crew remained in good health and high spirits, demonstrating resilience in the face of extreme conditions," Navy said.

The progress of the expedition has been closely followed by the Chief of the Naval Staff, receiving daily updates. On the eve of Diwali, while the vessel was at sea, the CNS interacted with the crew and found them motivated and dedicated to their mission.

Indian Navy's sailing vessel Tarini docked in Australian coast; Lieutenant Commanders Dilna K and Roopa A | EXPRESS

The arrival of INSV Tarini in Fremantle was given a warm welcome by the Consul General of India at Perth, Defence Advisor from Canberra, secretary of the Indian Navy Sailing Association and representatives from the Royal Australian Navy, along with Indian Naval veterans residing in Australia. The celebration was enriched by classical music, which the Tamil Association of Western Australia performed using Parai drum and Kombu Tharai drum.

Navika Sagar Parikrama II includes stops at four major ports worldwide. The two-women crew expedition continues the Navy's legacy of INSV Tarini's first circumnavigation, promoting gender equality, sustainability, and global maritime cooperation, Naval officers said.

The expedition also underscores India's commitment to fostering stronger relationships with international maritime communities and serves as an ambassador of India's rich maritime heritage.

"As INSV Tarini prepares for its next leg, this milestone underscores the strength, skill, and resilience of the crew and reaffirms India's dedication to sustainable and inclusive global engagement," Navy said.

STUBBLE BURNING

Punjab recorded 345 farm fires on Sunday, with Sangrur witnessing 116 such incidents, taking the total case count in the state past 6,600. From September 15 to November 10, Punjab saw 6,611 stubble-burning incidents, according to the Punjab Remote Sensing Centre data.

₹2.6cr GOLD SMUGGLED BY WOMAN SEIZED FROM MUMBAI AIRPORT

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	39	23	Mumbai	33	28
Bhopal	33	18	Panaji	32	24
Jaipur	36	24	Patna	35	27
Amritsar	36	18	Lucknow	36	22
Chennai	36	27	Port Blair	28	24
Kolkata	34	27	Imphal	31	19
Srinagar	27	05	Chandigarh	35	19

Cong breaking OBC-ST-SC unity: PM

Says move meant to snatch away quota benefits, pitches for 'ek rahenge toh safe rahenge'

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday launched a scathing attack on the JMM-Congress government and cautioned the people to stay vigilant against their divisive tactics of breaking and destroying the country.

Accusing its 'shahi parivar' (royal family) of attempting to break the ST-SC-OBC unity to "snatch away reservations under an evil design" while urging the crowd at a rally in Jharkhand to stay united, saying, 'Ek rahenge toh safe rahenge (stay united to stay safe)." He accused the ruling JMM-led coalition of looting the state's rich resources, including minerals, forests, sand, and coal, which he said put the state's "Roti-Beti-Mati" (bread, land, and daughter) at risk.

"The Congress is trying to pit one tribal community against another...Munda against Oraon, Lohra against Kharia, Kharwar against Korwa etc. with an agenda to break the tribal society'," he said.

Addressing a rally at Chandankyari in Jharkhand, Modi said the Congress was out to divide the STs, SCs and OBCs. He said Congress and JMM wanted to make OBC communities fight each other; they want small communities to stop considering themselves OBCs and remain entangled in their caste.

PM Narendra Modi, Union Minister Sanjay Seth at roadshow in Ranchi on Sunday | PTI

> **Do you want OBC communities to break up? If you break up, your voice will become weaker. You have to remember, 'ek rahenge to safe rahenge' (will be safer if united). They want to divide you because they are not able to win the elections.** – Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

"Do you want OBC communities to break up? If you break up, your voice will become weaker. You have to remember, "ek rahenge to safe rahenge' (will be safer, if united)," said Modi. "They want to divide you because they are not able to win the elections," he added.

Modi further pointed out that the OBC community was given reservations in 1990 and different castes of OBC joined together, since then, Congress has not been able to win even 250 seats in the Lok Sabha. "That's why Congress wants to break this collective strength of OBCs into hundreds of different castes," he said.

Speaking on Article 370, Modi said Kashmir continued to burn in the fire of terrorism for so many decades. "The country was not even allowed to know that two constitutions prevailed in this country for 70 years. The BJP abrogated Article 370 and for the first time, the J&K chief minister took oath under Ambedkar's Constitution," said the Prime Minister.

"But, as soon as the Congress and National Conference government was formed in J&K, they started hatching conspiracies. and a resolution was passed to reinstate Article 370 in the state. When BJP MLAs opposed it, they were thrown out of the Assembly. Will the country ever accept it," he questioned.

The PM also referred to exam paper leaks and the system of 'kharchi-parchi' to get a government job. "We have buried the 'kharchi-parchi' in Haryana and will do so in Jharkhand," said Modi. As soon as the BJP-NDA government is formed in Jharkhand, we will bring the mafia to justice, he added.

SOPS SHOWER

MVA: Caste census, free cervical cancer vaccine

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

THE opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) on Sunday released its manifesto for the November 20 polls, promising to safeguard the Indian constitution, bring back the glory of Maharashtra, raise per capita income, generate jobs and waive farm loans.

The manifesto, titled 'Maharashtranama', assured a caste-based census, and monthly financial assistance of ₹3,000 under the Mahalaxmi scheme, free bus travel and six cooking gas cylinders every year at ₹500 to women. It also promised to frame a 'Nirbhay Maharashtra' policy and enforcement of the Shakti law for the safety of women and children, besides a dedicated ministry for child welfare. The MVA also assured to provide ₹1 lakh each to girls on attaining the age of 18 years.

Congress president **Mallikarjun Kharge** released the manifesto at a press conference in Mumbai where NCP (SP) working president **Supriya Sule** and Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Sanjay Raut were present.

The manifesto also spelt out a 100-day plan if the MVA is voted to power in the state. "The MVA will also give free cervical cancer vaccines to all girls aged 9 to 16 years and two optional leave days for female employees during menstruation," the manifesto said.

For farmers in the state, apart from debt waiver up to ₹3 lakh and ₹50,000 incentive for regular loan repayment, a review will be conducted to improve the existing schemes and provide support to widows and children of families affected by farmer suicides, the MVA promised.

SRINAGAR DIARY

FAYAZ WANI
Our correspondent in Jammu and Kashmir
fayazwani123@gmail.com

First Assembly session all about Article 370

The main focus of the first session of the J&K UT Assembly remained on Article 370. The PDP first raised it. Later, when the NC introduced and passed a resolution on restoring special status, the BJP members protested and did not let the House function. On the final day, at least a dozen protesting BJP MLAs were marshalled out, followed by all the BJP's legislators walking out and boycotting the session. In their absence, abrogation was discussed, and none of the members spoke in its favour. It is still unclear why the BJP gave the NC, PDP, and others the open stage to vent their anger against abrogation.

Winter is approaching, so are challenges

As winter is approaching, CM Omar Abdullah chaired a high-level meeting to review preparedness. It came amid unscheduled power cuts, which have increased since the new government assumed charge on October 16. The prolonged dry spell is already creating challenges besides reduced power generation due to a decrease in water flow. The CM directed the officials to focus on health, power front, and road connectivity. He was informed that the control rooms have been established at divisional, district, and departmental levels to ensure coordination and swift response.

L-G flags mobile Sanskrit gurukul in Jammu

The second mobile Sanskrit gurukul of Kailakh Jyotish and Vedic Sansthan Trust was flagged off in Jammu, the winter capital of J&K, on Sunday by L-G Manoj Sinha. It is a part of the "Sanskrit in Every Household" campaign for the promotion of Sanskrit in J&K. The first Mobile Sanskrit Gurukul was launched by the L-G in December 2022 to share the treasure of knowledge and wisdom and provide non-formal education of Sanskrit, one of the oldest living languages of the world, at the doorsteps of the people. On the occasion, L-G commended all those involved in popularising Sanskrit language and scriptures.

ASSAM BYPOLL

Cong nominee's vehicle attacked, gunshots fired

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

STONES were thrown at the vehicle of the Congress' candidate for Samaguri assembly bypoll on Sunday, police said. The incident came hours after two people were injured in gunshots in Moriputhi area of Samaguri on Saturday night.

Congress candidate Tanzil Hussain is the son of party's Dhubri MP Rakibul Hussain. Samaguri will go to by-elections along with four other constituencies of the state on November 13.

"The attack on INC candidate of Samaguri Shri@Tanzil_NSUI is not only an attack on him but on democracy & the peaceful people of Assam. @assampolice must arrest the culprits & prove that Assam Police is working for the people of Assam & not CM @himantabiswa," the Assam Congress posted on X.

The BJP alleged that gun shots were fired by Congress supporters targeting its Barhampur MLA Jitu Goswami. The Congress accused the BJP supporters of firing. In post on X, CM Himanta Biswa Sarma said, "This is the same Congress that proudly holds up the Constitution for the cameras, yet resorts to violence under cover of darkness to intimidate our karyakartas. The real question is why has Congress stooped to such depths in this by-election?"

'BJP leaders informed about party rebels damaging us'

IN the run-up to the Maharashtra assembly elections due November 20, Chief Minister **Eknath Shinde** spoke with **Sudhir Suryawanshi** and shared his views about his government plans for the state. Excerpts:

How satisfied are you with seat-sharing within the ruling MahaYuti allies?
Everyone wanted to get a large share, besides wanting to field particular candidates in specific constituencies. However, everything does not happen as per individual party's wishes. We have resolved issues amicably. We have to keep our focus on winning irrespective of candidates and seats.

At many places, BJP's rebels are contesting against official MahaYuti candidates. Do you see this as a BJP tactic to cut Sena to size?
We have informed top BJP leaders about the rebels' presence and we expect some action. We have all the remedies in place.

Each election has an 'X factor.' What X or key factors do you see on the ground?
In this election, the major X or key factor is the Ladki Bahin scheme, which is one of the most successfully implemented schemes. It has deprived the Opposition of any worthwhile issue. Besides, a farm loan waiver, stipend for unemployed youths are on MahaYuti agenda. The Opposition merely copied our development agenda. I challenge them to have a debate on the works done by the MVA and us.

In Lok Sabha elections, MahaYuti bagged 17 seats while the MVA got 31. Within MahaYuti, your strike rate was better than BJP and NCP. How do you see your performance now?
Shiv Sena is strong in Mumbai, Thane, and the metropolitan region, Konkan and Marathwada. We are confident to win many seats in these areas plus other regions. I am working hard which is going to benefit not only Shiv Sena but our allies as well.

For Mahayuti, vote transfer was a major issue in LS polls. What corrective steps have you taken?
We have taken several measures. Party workers understand that vote transfer will have to happen if we want to return to power. Therefore, we are confident that in state polls, we do not have this vote transfer issue. We need to come back to power for the development of the state. We are happy that for the first time, so many schemes are undertaken for the people. No development work took place in the previous MVA government. Our revolt gave positive results to our state.

The PM's Economic Advisory Council recently reported that Maharashtra GDP and per capita income have slowed down...
I have not yet seen this report. However, we set up a similar council in the state under the leadership of Tata Sons. This council suggested that Maharashtra's economy has a huge potential.

What are the issues you are highlighting in your poll campaign?
Development is a major plank. The reason is that in the last two-and-a-half years, people know whatever work we have done. People also know that development projects were halted by MVA.

Strict anti-conversion law, skill census: BJP

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday released BJP's election manifesto for Maharashtra assembly elections, promising an increase in financial help under Ladli Behna Yojana from ₹1500 per month to ₹2100, old-age pension, farm loan waiver and hike in financial assistance to farmers from present ₹12,000 per year to ₹15,000 under Kisan Samman Nidhi.

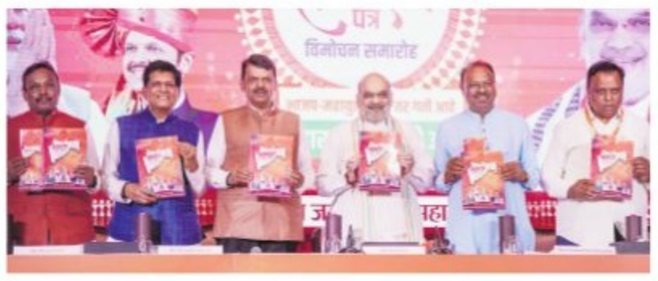
The BJP's 25-point 'Sankalp Patra 2024' also promised to enact an an-anti conversion law with stringent provisions and assured a skill census for training as per industry needs as well as free ration to low-income families.

"This manifesto is a reflection of the aspirations of the people of Maharashtra. Whenever a BJP-led government is formed in Maharashtra, the state progresses, but when the Congress-led alliance comes to power, only politics is played. To empower the youth of Maharashtra and make the state the leading one in the country across all sectors, it is essential to form a Mahayuti government," Shah said.

He said inflation will be controlled through a price stabilisation fund and 10 lakh talented students will be provided with a monthly stipend of ₹10,000 to support their further studies.

The manifesto said roads will be constructed in 45,000 villages, insurance coverage will be provided to ASHA and anganwadi workers and their monthly salary will be raised to ₹15,000, and the electricity bill will be reduced by 30%.

"By 2028, the government aims to make the state a $1 trillion economy, contributing to PM Narendra Modi's vision of a $5 trillion economy. Under the Make in Maharashtra policy, the state will be developed as a leading manufacturing hub. The country's first Artificial Intelligence University will be established. Aeronautics and space centres will be set up in Nagpur, Pune, Sambhajinagar, Ahilyanagar, and Nashik," it said.



Police arrest 2 shooters of Arsh Dalla gang for Sikh activist's murder...

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

THE Punjab Police on Sunday announced the arrest of two key operatives of Canada-based gangster-turned-terrorist Arsh Dalla in Mohali for their involvement in the murder of Sikh activist Gurpreet Singh Hari Nau in Faridkot last month.

With these arrests, the police claim to have prevented at least four more potential target killings and solved three cases, including the murder of a convicted criminal who was out on parole in Madhya Pradesh.

The operation was jointly carried out by the State Special Operations Cell (SSOC) Mohali, Anti-Gangster Task Force (AGTF) and Faridkot District Police.

The development comes in less than a month after the arrest of three members of the reccee module in this case. Senior Superintendent of Police of Faridkot Dr Pragya Jain has identified the arrested as Anmolpreet Singh alias Vishal, a resident of Bhadorh in Barnala, and Navjot Singh alias Neetu, a resident of Nijjar road in Kharar.

Additionally, their accomplice Balvir Singh alias Kalu -- brother of shooter Navjot Singh – has also been arrested for aiding and abetting the criminals. Authorities recovered two pistols, cash and a fake Aadhar card.

Shot dead on Oct 9

Gurpreet Singh Hari Nau was shot dead in Faridkot on October 9 while returning home from village gurdwara. The police had claimed that gangster-turned-terrorist Arshdeep Singh alia Arsh Dalla was mastermind behind th murder.

...duo also wanted in killing of murder convict in Gwalior

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhopal

TWO key operatives of Canada-based designated Khalistani terrorist Arshdeep Singh alias Arsh Dalla, who were arrested by Punjab police, were also wanted for the murder of a convict in Madhya Pradesh.

Besides the murder of Sikh activist Gurpreet Singh Hari Nau in Faridkot, the two -- Navjot Singh and Amalpreet Singh -- had killed a murder convict Jaswant Singh Gill in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior district on November 7. Gill (45) had come out on parole on October 28 from the Gwalior Central Jail, where he was serving a life imprisonment, for killing his wife's cousin in 2016. The two men had murdered Gill in Gwalior district's Dabra town's Gopal Bagh city while he was out on evening walk. The entire crime was captured in CCTV cameras installed near the spot.

Gill had murdered his wife's cousin Sukhwindar Singh in Maharajpur area of MP's Gwalior district in 2016. Two years later he was pronounced guilty by a Gwalior court, which awarded life imprisonment to him.

Since then, Gill was lodged at the Gwalior Central Jail and had come out on parole on October 28. The Gwalior district police had announced a Rs 10,000 bounty for arresting the two men who killed Gill.

Nov 7 murder

The two– Navjot Singh and Amalpreet Singh—had killed a murder convict Jaswant Singh Gill in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior district on November 7. Gill (45) had come out on parole on October 28 from the Gwalior Central Jail.

Three-month-old elephant calf dies, jumbo toll at Bandhavgarh reaches 11

ANURAAG SINGH @ Bhopal

MADHYA Pradesh's Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve (BTR) has suffered the loss of its eleventh elephant in less than a week.

The latest casualty is a 3-month-old weak and ailing calf which was rescued by the BTR management from Panpatha jungles after being presumably abandoned by its herd members.

According to L Krishnamurthy, the state's Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), "On Friday morning, the calf was found alone, unwell and unconscious after getting separated from the herd in compartment number RF 179 Patparaha Haar of Beat Kharibadi Tola of Panpatha Buffer Forest Range of BTR in Umaria district. A wildlife veterinarian team immediately reached the spot and treated it. For further treatment, the baby elephant was brought to Rama Elephant Camp of Range Tala, where it was being treated by the medical team camping at the spot."

Elephant found dead in MP's Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve | PTI FILE

> **On Friday, the calf was found alone, unwell and unconscious after getting separated from the herd. The calf died during the treatment.**
> L Krishnamurthy, MP Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife)

"During the treatment, the elephant calf died on Sunday at 6:06 am. As per the SOP, post-mortem and disposal of the carcass is being done in the presence of senior forest officials," Krishnamurthy said in an official statement.

This is the eleventh wild tusker casualty in BTR, whose jungles have since 2018, been home to wild elephant herds, migrating from adjoining Chhattisgarh.

The calf, however, wasn't part of the 13-strong elephant herd which had lost ten of its members within three days last month. According to BTR sources, it was part of a different herd, which had possibly abandoned it for being weak and ailing.

More than 60 wild elephants have been living in BTR jungles. During October 29-31, ten wild elephants forming part of a 13-strong herd had died.

RUSSIA, UKRAINE EXCHANGE RECORD DRONE ATTACKS

Moscow fires 145 drones at Ukraine, shoots down 70 launched from Kyiv; Kremlin optimistic about Trump rule

MOSCOW

RUSSIA and Ukraine both launched record drone attacks on each other overnight, as the Kremlin said it saw "positive signals" from US president-elect Donald Trump over his desire to strike a deal to end the conflict.

Russia fired 145 drones at Ukraine overnight, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said – more than in any single night-time attack of the conflict so far.

"Last night, Russia launched a record 145 Shaheds and other strike drones against Ukraine," Zelenskyy said on social media, urging Kyiv's Western allies to do more to help Ukraine's defence.

Russia also said it had downed 34 Ukrainian attack drones targeting Moscow on Sunday, the largest attempted attack on the capital since the start of the offensive in 2022.

Kyiv's attempted drone strike on Moscow was its largest attack on the Russian capital of the conflict, with Moscow region governor Andrei Vorobyov calling it "massive".

It forced the temporary closure of three airports, wounded a 52-year-old woman and set two homes on fire in the village of Stanovoye in the Moscow region, officials said.

While the Ukrainian capital Kyiv is regularly targeted by massive Russian drone and missile strikes, attacks on Moscow are much less frequent.

The interior of a room in a damaged house following a drone attack in Odesa, amid the Russian invasion in Ukraine (left). The wreckage of a drone in Moscow region | AFP

The defence ministry said Russia's air defence had downed a total of 70 Ukrainian drones between 0400 GMT and 0700 GMT over six regions.

It said 34 were downed over the Moscow region and the rest over Bryansk, Orlov, Kaluga, Tula and Kursk.

In the Moscow region, local officials said the drones were downed in the Ramenskoye, Kolomna and Domodedovo districts.

In the previous largest drone attack on or near Moscow in September, a woman was killed in Ramenskoye – the first time someone has been killed in a Ukrainian attack near the capital.

Trump's election to the White House has the potential to upend the almost three-year conflict and has thrown into question Washington's multi-billion dollar support for Kyiv, crucial to its defence.

The Republican said on the campaign trail that he could end the fighting.

"The signals are positive. Trump during his election campaign talked about how he perceives everything through deals, that he can make a deal that can lead to peace," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said in an interview with state media published Sunday.

"At least he's talking about peace, and not about confrontation. He isn't talking about his wish to inflict a strategic defeat on Russia – that distinguishes him from the current administration," Peskov added.

But he warned about Trump's unpredictability.

AFP

Russia lost 7 lakh troops so far: UK

The chief of the UK defence staff, Tony Radakin, told the BBC that Russian forces had suffered their worst month of casualties in October since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. He said Moscow's troops suffered an average of 1,500 dead and wounded 'every single day', bringing their total losses in the war to 700,000. According to Radakin, ordinary Russians were paying 'an extraordinary price' for the war, even as a gruelling, months-long Russian offensive in Ukraine's industrial east continues to eke out gains

Putin inks defence pact with North Korea

Russian President Vladimir Putin has signed off on a landmark defence pact with North Korea, a deal that comes amid reports that Pyongyang has despatched thousands of troops to fight against Ukraine. The agreement formalises months of deepening security cooperation between the two nations, which were Communist allies throughout the Cold War. The deal obligates both states to provide military assistance "without delay" in the case of an attack on the other. It also commits them to cooperate to oppose Western sanctions

Netanyahu dials Trump again on Iranian threat

JERUSALEM

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said Sunday he had spoken three times with US president-elect Donald Trump over the past few days about the "Iranian threat" to Israeli security.

"In the last few days, I have spoken three times with President-elect Donald Trump... Talks designed to further tighten the strong alliance between Israel and the US," Netanyahu said, quoted in a statement issued by his office.

"We see eye to eye on the Iranian threat in every aspect," he added during a weekly cabinet meeting, according to the statement.

Netanyahu also said he had talked to Trump about "great opportunities before Israel in the field of peace and its expansion".

The United States is Israel's top ally and military backer, and the election came at a critical time for the Middle East amid wars in Gaza and Lebanon.

Analysts believe Netanyahu had hoped for a Trump return to the White House, given the longstanding personal friendship between the two as well as the former president's hawkishness on Israel's arch-foe Iran.

During his first term, Trump moved the US embassy to Jerusalem, recognised Israeli sovereignty over the occupied Golan Heights and helped normalise ties between Israel and several Arab states under the so-called Abraham Accords.

Meanwhile in Paris, police said on Sunday that 4,000 officers and 1,600 stadium staff will be deployed for a France-Israel soccer match to ensure security in and around the stadium and on public transportation a week after violence against Israeli fans in Amsterdam.

France and Israel are playing in a UEFA Nations League match on Thursday.

"There's a context, tensions that make that match a high-risk event for us," Paris police chief Laurent Nuñez said on French news broadcaster BFM TV, adding authorities "won't tolerate" any violence. About 2,500 police officers would be deployed around the Stade de France stadium, north of the French capital, in addition to 1,500 others in Paris and public transportation, he said.

AFP

Some schools reopened in north

Some schools reopened on Sunday in Israel's bombarded north, the target of near daily strikes by Hezbollah, after civil defence authorities eased restrictions, the education ministry said. Schools were able to resume lessons in certain regions including that of Haifa and Galilee, according to the directives by civil defence on Saturday

Trump wins all seven US swing states, bags 312 electors in all

AGENCIES

US President-elect Donald Trump on Sunday added Arizona to the list of states he won. With that, the Republican has beaten his Democratic rival Kamala Harris in all seven battleground states.

The seven battleground states in this election cycle were Arizona, Nevada, Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and Georgia.

The victory in Arizona took Trump's electoral college tally to 312 against 226 of Vice President Harris. Arizona holds 11 electoral college votes.

In 2020, President Joe Biden became the first Democrat to win Arizona since Bill Clinton in 1996. Trump has now flipped it back.

Arizona is the sixth state Trump has flipped from Biden's Electoral College victory in 2020. He campaigned heavily on border security, immigration and crime committed by illegal immigrants on the trail, all issues that resonated in the state with a record influx of migrants last year.

Trump pledged mass deportations, promoted hiring an additional 10,000 border agents to patrol the US-Mexico border and promised to use some of the military budget for border funding.

Egypt razes tombs to build new roads, bridges in Cairo

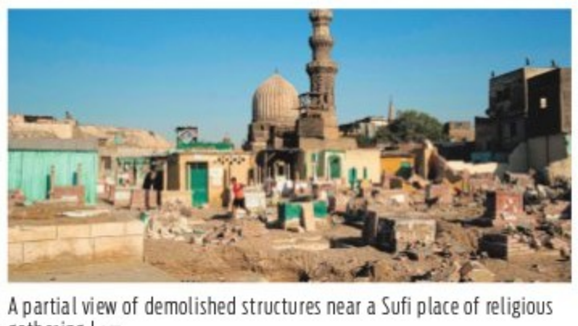
CAIRO

TWENTY years after burying him, Egyptian architect Ahmed el-Meligui was forced to exhume his grandfather's remains from a historic Cairo cemetery that is being partially razed to accommodate the growing mega-city.

"Death itself is a tragedy. Here, you are reliving that tragedy all over again," said the 43-year-old, who had 23 other relatives also removed from their family tomb, located in a sprawling cemetery known as the City of the Dead in Old Cairo. Since 2020, thousands of graves have been demolished at the UNESCO-listed World Heritage site, one of the oldest necropolises in the Muslim world. It is the latest piece of Cairo's history to be torn apart as authorities aggressively remake parts of the city, a longtime cultural beacon of the Arab world.

The Egyptian government said the cemetery's destruction is necessary to build new roads and bridges that they hope will improve traffic in the congested, densely populated capital, home to around 22 million people.

The Egyptian government has offered alternative burial sites outside Cairo to families, but these cemeteries are smaller and more remote, according to several people whose families have tombs there. *AFP*



A partial view of demolished structures near a Sufi place of religious gathering | AFP

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - I AT BANGALORE

Case No : O.A. No.899/2023
Summons under sub-section(4) of Section 19 of the Act, read with Sub - Rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules,1993

Between : State Bank of India, SARB Bangalore ...Applicant
And:
SRI ANTONY D'SOUZA & OTHERS ....Defendants

SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993,

To : 3) Smt. Jaqueline Jyothi Moras D/o. Francis Moras, Major, R/o 2C, 419, 2nd Cross, OMBR Layout, Bhuva Nagar, Bangalore - 560 093.

Whereas, this Applicant has instituted an application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993, against the Defendant(s) you for recovery of a sum **Amount of debt in Rs. 23,32,274/-** (Rupees Twenty Three Lakhs Thirty Two Thousand Two Hundred and Seventy Four Only) Defendant(s) is/are therefore hereby directed to appear before this Tribunal in person or through an Advocate or duly authorized agent, in support of his/their defence to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on **30.12.2024 at 10:30 a.m.** (forenoon) as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal on this the **6st day of October 2024.**

By order of the Tribunal
Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal - I

PUBLIC NOTICE

Under the instructions from my client Dr. V.Shankaranarayana S/o Late M Venkataswamy, Aged about 68 years, R/at No.9, N R Extension, Chintamani Town, is the absolute owner of the property bearing Site No.79 in the layout fromed in several survey numbers at Jakkur village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Banglore, by the University of Agricultural Sciences Employees House Building Co-operative Society, Hebbal, Bangalore, as per plan approved by the Bangalore Development Authority vide No.BDA/TPM/442/2001-02 dated: 23-05-2001. Measuring East to West-65 feet and North to South 40 feet, in all total area 2600 square feet and bounded on the East by Site No.78, West by-Road, North by R.F.D, South by Site No.80 same is purchased by my client under the registered sale deed dated: 06- 03-2004 vide document No.BNG(U) YLNK/19326/2003-2004 registered in the office of Sub-Registrar, Yelahanka New Town and the above said original registered sale deed is lost by my client while travelling in BTS Bus from Majestic to GKVK College, for which my client had lodged a police complaint before the Byatarayanapura police station Bangalore. Whoever finds the same may kindly be handed over to my client or my address and whoever having any claims or objections with respect to above mentioned property, kindly inform or writing to below mentioned address, within 7 days.

Sd/-
P.C. Narayana Reddy
Advocate
A.T.S. Building, Bus Stand Road,
Chintamani 563125
Role No. KAR 291/89

Published by
Sri. P C Narayanareddy
Advocate ATS Building
KSRTC Bus stand Road,
Chintamani Town.
Mob: 9448671371

ANDHRA PRADESH CAPITAL REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Lenin Centre, Governorpet, Vijayawada - 520 002 (A.P.)

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
MAU61-EE0ENV(OTH)/4/2024-CZLE, Dt. 08.11.2024

Name of the work: APCRDA - Supply, Establishment, Operation & Maintenance of Real-Time/Continuous Online River Water Quality Monitoring Station at Amaravati, Greenfield Capital City, Andhra Pradesh. The EoI can be downloaded from APCRDA website portal from **09.11.2024**. Due date for submission of the applications is **15.11.2024 upto 17.00 Hrs.** Date and time of EOI application opening is **16.11.2024 @ 11.00 Hrs.** Presentation by applicants on **16.11.2024 from 14.00 Hrs.** For further details refer to EoI displayed on APCRDA website.

Sd/- Commissioner, APCRDA, Vijayawada

Advertisement No. 115/2024
Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
Director (Finance)
In
Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL)
Last date of submission of application by the applicant is by 15.00 hours on
02/12/2024
Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal officers to PESB is by 15.00 hours on
11/12/2024
For details login to website
https://pesb.gov.in

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

POSSESSION NOTICE (Immovable Properties)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **City Union Bank Ltd.**, having its **Administrative Office** at **No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612001** and one of the Branch Offices **6th Cross, Thamme Gowda (TG) Layout, Opp. Hoskote Mission Hospital & Channakeshava Petrol Bunk, Hoskote, Bengaluru Rural - 562114, Hoskote Branch** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) & (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice Dated **29-08-2024** calling upon the borrowers **No.1) M/s. Sri Sai Techno Block, Survey No.23, Rampura Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Virgonagar Post, Bengaluru - 560049. Also at, M/s. Sri Sai Techno Block, Survey No.60/2, Ground Floor, Gundur Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Virgonagar Post, Bengaluru Urban - 560049. No.2) Mr. P. Madhu Sai, S/o. P. Penchalaiah, Flat No.309, 3rd Floor, Monika Espancia, Kevin Asirvatham Block, Banjara Layout, Horamavu Agara, KR Puram, Hobli, Bengaluru - 560043. No.3) Mr. P. Penchalaiah, S/o. Chinna Masthanaiah, Flat No.309, 3rd Floor, Monika Espancia, Kevin Asirvatham Block, Banjara Layout, Horamavu Agara, KR Puram Hobli, Bengaluru - 560043. No.4) Mrs. P. Rama, W/o. P. Penchalaiah, Flat No.309, 3rd Floor, Monika Espancia, Kevin Asirvatham Block, Banjara Layout, Horamavu Agara, KR Puram Hobli, Bengaluru - 560043** to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice being **Rs.62,43,994/- (Rupees Sixty Two Lakh Forty Three Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety Four only)** within **60 days** from the date of the said Notice with subsequent interest thereon from **27-08-2024** with monthly rests.

The borrowers above named having failed to repay the amount despite the receipt of the above referred statutory notice, NOTICE is hereby given to the borrowers above named and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the Properties described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this 07th day of November 2024.

The borrowers above named in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of City Union Bank Ltd. for an amount of **Rs.64,08,501/- (Rupees Sixty Four Lakh Eight Thousand Five Hundred and One only)** and interest thereon from **06-11-2024** till the repayment of entire dues.

The borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - A

Property - 1 : (Property Owned by Mr. P. Penchalaiah, S/o. Chinna Masthanaiah)

Schedule - "A" Property : All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing converted Survey No.65/2, New BBMP Khatha No.40/1/Survey No.65/2 (coverted for Non-Agricultural Residential purpose vide conversion order No.ALN (E) SR (Kr.H) 148/2012-13, dated 16-03-2013 issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore) situated at Horamavu Agara Village, K R Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, totally measuring 13 Guntas and bounded on : East by : Survey No.65/3, Horamavu Agara Village and Private Property, West by : Passage thereafter Mounika Espancia Apartment Block A in the Block name known as Lepakshi Block constructed on remaining portion of same Survey 65/2 measuring 13 Guntas thereafter Survey No.65/1 belongs to Mr. Yella Reddy, North by : Remaining portion of same Survey No.65/2, South by : Road formed in Survey No.65/8.

Schedule - "B" Property : 284 Sq.ft right, title and interest in the immovable property mentioned in Schedule A Property.

Schedule - "C" Property : Flat bearing No.309 in the Third Floor in Block B in the Block known as Kevin Asirvatham measuring about 1,255 sq.ft. containing three bed Rooms together with one covered car parking space in the property known as Mounika Espancia.

Property - 2 : (Property Owned by Mrs. P. Rama, W/o. P. Penchalaiah)

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Residential Site No.33, Old Property No.55, New Property No.55/-P15, Marenahalli Village, Panchayat Katha No. 815/55/33, situated at Marasandra Village, Jala Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk. Measuring : East to West 50 feet, North to South 30 feet, Totally measuring 1,500 Sq.feet and bounded on : East by : Road, West by : Site No.36, North by : Site No.34, South by : Site No.32. Together with the superstructure now existing and to be putup there on in future.

Place : Hoskote, Date : 07-11-2024 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
LABORATORY FOR ELECTRO-OPTICS SYSTEMS (LEOS)
PEENYA, BANGALORE-560058. LEOS CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP (LCMG)
[Phone: (080)-22685088, 5193, 5093, 5086, Fax: (080)-28392310]

BRIEF NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER (NIET)

On behalf of the President of India, item rate e-tender are invited for the following works:

Name of the work; NIT NO & Date : Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning of 4 Nos of 500kVA Diesel Generator Sets at LEOS campus, Peenya, Bangalore-58. NIET No: LEOS/CMG/EMW-12/2024-25 Dtd: 06.11.2024 **Estimated cost put to tender & EMD in Rs. 323.48Lakhs EMD Rs: 6,46,960/- Period of Completion in months :** 08 Months Tender document can be downloaded from : **Opening Date :** 11.11.2024 **Closing Date :** 28.11.2024

Interested tenderers may please refer detailed Notice Inviting e-Tender (NIET) for eligibility criteria and other details in website: **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

-Sd- GROUP DIRECTOR
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP (C&MG)
URSC, BANGLAORE.

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER-2nd Call (only through KPP Portal)

BWSSB invites Tenders from Registered Contractors for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (North), 2nd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009

Sl No.	Division	IFT Number	Amount put to Tender / EMD Amount		Last date & time for Submission of Tender	Date & time for Opening of Tender
1.	North -2	BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/ 1734/2024-25 Dt:07.11.2024	1.	₹ 19,42,413/- / ₹ 48,600/-	25.11.2024 upto 3:00 Pm	26.11.2024 after 4:00 Pm
2.		BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/ 1735/2024-25 Dt:07.11.2024	2.	₹ 15,07,380/- / ₹ 37,700/-		
3.		BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/ 1736/2024-25 Dt:07.11.2024	3.	₹ 14,52,974/- / ₹ 36,400/-		
4.		BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/1737/ 2024-25 Dt:07.11.2024 (Reserved for SC Category)	4.	₹ 17,30,614/- / ₹ 21,700/-		
5.		BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/1738/ 2024-25 Dt:07.11.2024 (Reserved for SC Category)	5.	₹ 18,31,496/- / ₹ 22,900/-		
6.		BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/ 1739/2024-25 Dt:07.11.2024	6.	₹ 10,69,069/- / ₹ 26,800/-		
7.		BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/ 1740/2024-25 Dt:07.11.2024	7.	₹ 11,94,585/- / ₹ 29,900/-		
8.		BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/ 1741/2024-25 Dt:07.11.2024	8.	₹ 14,17,189/- / ₹ 35,500/-		
9.		BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/ 1742/2024-25 Dt:07.11.2024	9.	₹ 18,98,362/- / ₹ 47,500/-		
10.		BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/ 1743/2024-25 Dt:07.11.2024	10.	₹ 20,32,433/- / ₹ 50,000/-		
11.		BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/ 1744/2024-25 Dt:07.11.2024	11.	₹ 68,55,030/- / ₹ 1,37,110/-		
12.		BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/ 1745/2024-25 Dt:07.11.2024	12.	₹ 23,08,356/- / ₹ 50,000/-		
13.		BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/1746/ 2024-25 Dt:07.11.2024 (Reserved for ST Category)	13.	₹ 22,70,687/- / ₹ 25,000/-		
14.		BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/1747/ 2024-25 Dt:07.11.2024 (Reserved for SC Category)	14.	₹ 7,48,643/- / ₹ 9,400/-		
15.		BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/1748/ 2024-25 Dt:07.11.2024 (Reserved for ST Category)	15.	₹ 9,74,048/- / ₹ 12,180/-		
16.		BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/1749/ 2024-25 Dt:07.11.2024 (Reserved for SC Category)	16.	₹ 6,47,340/- / ₹ 8,100/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer (North-2)

The detail regarding the tender & participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the undersigned office during working hours.

DIPR/SI/3115/2024-25

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Large caps are better than fairly valued: Bajaj Finserv AMC CEO

CEO Ganesh Mohan says consumption remains a compelling theme in Indian markets even if the sector faces short-term bearish sentiments

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

BAJAJ Finserv AMC, a one-year-old mutual fund company, is trying to grow in what looks like an already crowded place – there are already 44 mutual funds in India with top 10 mutual funds in asset size accounting for 77% of the industry assets. CEO Ganesh Mohan in an interaction with TNIE explains the AMC's strategies to grow assets under management (AuM).

What are the strategies to grow assets in the crowded AMC business?

The advantage we had was that we were setting the fund house from scratch, and our investment team started with a new investment philosophy. We put together all the three possible sources of alpha. And they are the information edge, which is better quality information than the crowd; a quantitative edge, which is better tools, models, analytical tools to assess the data; and behavioural edge, which is, how do you make the right decisions based on the same information and tools.

Can you explain the behavioural edge that you claim you have?

Everybody has access to the same information, so it's a very thin edge. Even the quantitative edge, while today there is some room to differentiate, my own assessment is, in three to five years, this is going to become a pretty standard, the way technology is developing. AI, ML-way of new modelling will get commoditised very soon. Then the third edge becomes important to really generate alpha, which is your behavioural edge.

Explain the uniqueness of your existing funds?

Every single active equity fund that we launch, we will look to bring something that is differentiated from the underlying benchmark. And there are two

> Every single active equity fund that we launch, we will look to bring something that is differentiated from the underlying benchmark.
>
> Ganesh Mohan, CEO, Bajaj Finserv AMC

big weaknesses that a benchmark has -- One, benchmarks cannot look into the future. Companies come into the index after they have performed, and companies that are in the index but are underperforming continue to stay in the index till they exit. If you can have a strategy which looks at what are the future growth prospects of individual companies, and have a systematic way of doing that, then you can outperform the index. So, that was what our first fund – a flexicap fund -- was based on. The second fund – a large and mid-cap fund -- that we launched was on moat-based investing. Companies that have a strong defensive moat can protect their earnings very well and for a longer period of time, that justifies a higher valuation with higher multiples. The third fund – a large-cap fund -- is one of the toughest ones to generate alpha, because you have only 100 companies. if you keep out, maybe 10-15 stocks for different reasons -- governance concerns, etc -- you're left with maybe 80-85 companies. If you create a portfolio of 50-55, you're more or less creating a closet index. If you're doing indexing, how do you outperform the index? So, we came up with a concentrated (maximum 25-30 stocks), high conviction large-cap approach.

For our balanced advantage fund category, we launched for the first time in the country, a model which has two parts -- one is a fundamental indicator which gives you a Nifty fair value and a 30% weightage on the sentiment indicator, which gives you a sense of what is the market sentiment at this point of time. Both these, put together, give us a better sense of what should be the equity levels in our portfolio.

What is the sentiment indicator based on?

It's based on many inputs from other markets, like currency commodity and bond markets, all of these give you early warning indicators on equity.

How do you see the current market condition in terms of valuation?

Right now, large caps are in fair value or even slightly better than fair value. There has been a slight earnings downgrade, and the Nifty is trading around 21 PE. We believe Nifty at 24,000-25,000 is fairly valued. Mid and small caps are above fair value, and there we also have a little bit of liquidity concern as well. So, both valuation and liquidity wise, we have a lot of comfort on the large cap side. What has also happened is that over the last three years many large caps have time corrected.

You are launching a new consumption-based thematic fund. Is it the right time to do so?

Consumption is a very important theme, because what happens is when a country goes past a very important milestone of around $2,500 GDP per capita, which is where India is currently, to around $5,000 which is where we will be in probably around 5-6 years, consumption actually shows a disproportionate shift.

But consumption has failed to pick up in the past 1 year...

What we are seeing is within India, there is Australia, the Philippines and Sub-Saharan Africa in terms of consumption. All of them exist within India. Now what is likely to happen is some people from Sub-Saharan Africa will move into the Philippines, and some from the Philippines will start moving into Australia. So that quality of consumption, and such stories will start playing out very well.

MONEY MATTERS

HOW NOT TO MISS CHANCES TO CREATE WEALTH

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR

(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

IN the world of investments, your biggest enemy is the inflation. As you work hard to earn a meaningful living, you constantly strive for more because the prices of things keep rising. The official consumer price inflation data may say one thing, but inflation is the daily price for consumption. You know things to do to ensure that you are not letting that demon eat into your wealth.

You must ensure that equity and equity-linked assets are always in your portfolios. A primary reason is equity assets outperform all other asset classes convincingly to give you the highest return. If you invested ₹50,000 yearly since 1994, you put around ₹14.40 lakh. That money is worth ₹58.8 lakh today if you had invested in a fixed deposit and ₹70.2 lakh if you had invested in a public provident fund. If you had put the same money in gold, it would have been worth ₹1.2 crore. You would feel pleased about that. However, an investment in the Nifty 50 index would have propelled your ₹14.4 lakh into ₹2.8 crore.

At an average 6.3% inflation rate in those 30 years, you must adjust your savings by ₹47 lakh for inflation. With fixed deposits and PPFs, you are barely adding to your wealth. While gold has given you a decent return, it is probably not enough to pay for retired life. The data underscores the need to add that equity muscle to your portfolio.

However, financial markets are about future returns. Very few experts anywhere in the world argue against India's steady economic growth and consistent profit growth of Indian companies. Stock market returns typically follow the trend in profit growth.

MANDAR PARDIKAR

In 1994, your awareness of equities was minimal, and your participation in equity markets was barely anything. Today, there is a surge in the demat accounts, trading accounts, and investor accounts for stock market trading. The National Stock Exchange recently celebrated ten crore investor accounts. That number will likely continue as it is a fraction of the potential.

Index investing

There is always a burden of lack of knowledge when investing in equities. You suffer from an inertia for learning anything new after your formal education. Those who enter the equity markets are quickly attracted to high-intensity stock market trading activity like day trading or options trading. The idea is primarily to make a quick buck. You need not follow the same path. You must tell yourself that equity assets are necessary to beat inflation. That does not mean you have to dive deep and master derivatives trading. You can get a professional advisor to help you determine the suitable instruments that align with your financial goals.

In the 90s, there was no concept of an index fund or an exchange-traded fund. Today, you can invest in an index fund or an exchange-traded fund by tapping your smartphone.

A commitment to passive investing can dramatically make a difference in your retirement savings. There is no guaranteed return here that the Nifty 50 companies would maintain a specific 14% return. However, empirical historical data suggests allocating money towards equity assets makes common sense. That has happened for decades, and there is no reason why equity assets cannot outperform other asset classes going forward.

What can you do

The first step is to ensure that an asset allocation plan is drawn. Even if you feel edgy about equity markets, you must get professional help to choose the correct index or mutual funds. A lot of literature online can help you make sense of mutual funds or index funds. Your learning must be limited to the significant picture impact on future profits. You do not have to analyse every sector or know when to enter the market or exit. There are a lot of warnings issued by the government against speculative trading.

At the same time, even mutual funds carry risk meters that show their risk level. The empirical data on the Nifty 50 returns suggests that over the long term, there is little excuse not to own equity assets. You do not have to be an expert; you just have to be smart.

MONEY-WISE

THE CRITICALITY OF CRITICAL ILLNESS INSURANCE

FINANCIAL ADVICE

ASHOK KUMAR

Head of LKW-India. He can be reached at ceolotus@hotmail.com

(Views expressed here are personal)

IN the last column on the eve of the festival of lights, we initiated a discussion on how vital Term Insurance Cover is for anyone with even a single financial dependant. It is worth noting that at the turn of the decade viz. prior to the start of the financial year FY 20-21, barely 10% of those with the means were interested in buying health insurance to cover new age diseases.

But since the advent of the fear instilled by the pandemic, 71% now consider health insurance a necessity. Notably, and almost overnight, 57% of those surveyed, claimed to have understood the importance of comprehensive health insurance plans. That this has not translated into an immediate increase in such coverage is both a reflection of respondent inertia till it is too late and perhaps the lack of an even more aggressive awareness program on the part of insurance companies.

This brings me to a very crucial insurance product, namely CRITICAL ILLNESS Insurance Cover. Most people tend to overlook it believing that since they have Mediclaim they are adequately covered. But the fact is, firstly there has to be hospitalization for Mediclaim to kick in, and further, there are often caps and sub-limits that will easily be exceeded in the event of a Critical Illness. Furthermore, escalation in Premium payable in case of Mediclaim is a given, especially post a year like the last one where huge payouts have been made.

In contrast to this, there are Critical Illness insurance policies that offer the optional benefit of covering several (approximately 30 usually) Critical Illnesses such as cancer, heart attack and kidney failure for a maximum of 30 years without any change in premium. What also makes some of these product offerings distinctive is that it gives full claim payout on the first diagnosis of any of these covered Critical Illnesses, even without Hospital Bills. This payout amount is crucial as it can also safeguard one's family against the loss of income arising out of the illness, which could put one out of action for a prolonged period of time.

Critical Illness policies come bundled with an equivalent Term Plan and that usually adds an enhanced financial ring around the family of the one with a Critical Illness in the event of non-survival. That the payment of Premium paid under such a policy can be demarcated and qualifies for deductions under both, Section 80C as well as Section 80D of the Income Tax Act, offers an additional benefit.

Finally, one must remember that if ever diagnosed with a Critical Illness, it can affect one physically, emotionally and financially. By investing in a Critical Illness cover, one can at least take the inevitable financial pain and insecurity out of the equation. This is because, claiming a Critical Illness payout does not prevent one from claiming a Mediclaim reimbursement separately.

So, give a fresh thought to Critical Illness Insurance. It could just turn out to be the best decision you make this year.

Bitcoin surges to record high; experts believe it will soar above $80,000

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

FOR the first time, Bitcoin surged over $79,000, driven by industry optimism about Donald Trump's pro-crypto policies in the near future.

Other cryptocurrencies are also surging as Ethereum surpassed $3,200, its highest level since August.

Balaji Srihari, business head at CoinSwitch said this momentum reflects a broader market response to recent political shifts and macroeconomic trends. "The election of Donald Trump as US President has lifted the regulatory weight from the industry. Since the November 5 election results, Bitcoin has gained over 30%, signalling a fresh wave of confidence among investors," he said.

"We now have large institutional investors accumulating Bitcoin and offering it as an asset to customers in the form of exchange traded funds (ETFs), a positive regulatory environment and several innovative projects ready for take off. It's the perfect set up for a bull cycle," Srihari added.

Experts also point out that Bitcoin will set the stage for even greater gains soon.

At CoinSwitch, the trading volumes have risen by 350% since the election results (as compared to the previous week).

He added that as the market gains momentum, it's important for investors to stay vigilant and informed about factors that could influence price stability.

Ryan Lee, Chief Analyst at Bitget Research, said, in the medium to long term, Trump's election could benefit BTC, but his policy direction may also increase inflation in the US, with interest rates potentially staying above 3.5% over the medium to long term.

'Indian distilleries can compete with foreign liquor brands'

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

PAUL P John, the chairman and MD of Bengaluru-based John Distilleries, says he is not concerned about competition from Europe as long as Indian companies are allowed to do business there as well.

He says despite regulatory challenges, Indian liquor companies have proved they can compete on quality.

In an interaction with TNIE, John said free trade agreements with European countries will have some impact on Indian liquor manufacturers, but he would rather fight in the market based on quality than being protected with some kind of tax barriers.

"The tariff (on foreign liquor) should be reduced, but Indian companies should also be able to do business there. They use non-tariff laws such as ageing and maturity eligibility to restrict access to Indian brands. I feel they should also open up their markets to us equally like we are opening ours for them," he says. The ongoing India-UK trade

agreement raises hope of reduction of 150% tariff on Whiskey from Scotland and the UK. This could lead to increased competition for home-grown whiskey manufacturers in India.

According to the Ministry of Commerce, India imported $354 million, while exported only $157 million worth of whiskies in FY24. When asked if Indian manufacturers have in them to withstand the competition, Paul John says, "There's nothing stopping us. We have been doing it, in spite of all these challenges and winning awards and being recognized worldwide. We have the infrastructure in India, we have the people, and the willingness to work. I don't see any reason as to where we will not be able to deliver. I think we've already proved that."

John Distilleries' Mithuna brand single-malt whiskey was declared the third-finest whiskey in the world by "Jim Murray's Whisky Bible 2021".

Even though well-known for its single malt whiskey, John Distilleries is also known in the mass market for its low-priced brand Original Choice. The company also has Vodka, Rum and Gin in its portfolio. The only missing link is a beer brand.

However, the chairman and MD says they are not looking at beer for the time being because that's a very price sensitive, brand conscious market. "We need a completely different infrastructure to be able to actually produce and market the beer. And that's not an area that I'm looking at now," says Paul P John.

Vistara merger: Section of AI pilots unhappy over different retirement age

PTI @ Mumbai

A section of Air India pilots is unhappy in the run-up to the Vistara merger over different retirement age limits for pilots of the two Tata Group-owned airlines as the management is yet to address the issue, according to sources.

At Air India, which was owned by the government since the 1950s and came into the Tata fold in 2022, the retirement age for pilots and other staff is 58 years, whereas at Vistara it is 60 years.

Vistara -- jointly owned by Tata Group and Singapore Airlines -- is set to be merged with Air India on November 11 as part of the salt-to-steel conglomerate's consolidation of its aviation business.

The sources said resentment is brewing among a section of Air India pilots as the management is yet to formulate a common superannuation age for the integrated entity.

Air India did not comment on the issue. "There is a lot of resentment among a section of Air India pilots ahead of the Vistara merger over the retirement age limit.

"While the management was prompt in bringing parity in terms of salary structure and other working conditions of the employees of the two airlines as part of the merger process, it is yet to address the issue of two different retirement age limits," a source said on the condition of anonymity.

The sources said the anomaly puts the Air India pilots at a "disadvantage" vis-a-vis their Vistara counterparts, who will be getting two more years of service. Under the current DGCA regulations, a pilot can serve up to the age of 65 years. In August this year, Air India announced a policy stating that it will retain select pilots on a contract basis for a period of five years after retirement with provision to extend it till the age of 65 years.

Gauff beats Zheng to bag WTA Finals title

Coco Gauff became the youngest player to win the WTA Finals title in 20 years with a gruelling 3-6, 6-4, 7-6 (2) victory over Olympic champion Zheng Qinwen in Riyadh on Saturday. The 20-year-old Gauff rallied back from 3-6, 1-3 down, and erased a one-break deficit twice in the decider, to overcome Zheng in three hours and four minutes.

WHAT LIES AHEAD FOR GAMBHIR DOWN UNDER

With Indian team leaving for Australia, here are some talking points...

GOMESH S @ Chennai

IT'S been a week since Rohit Sharma and his team was handed a 3-0 drubbing in Mumbai by New Zealand. The wounds are still fresh but India cannot sulk. The team management had a meeting with the top brass of the BCCI to review and hit the reset button before the Australia series begins on November 22. India do not have any tour games and will take part in a match simulation programme with the India A team from November 15-17 in Perth.

The first batch of players and support staff left on Sunday and the rest are expected to leave for Perth today. As things stand, there are more questions than answers, some of which could be answered when head coach Gautam Gambhir addresses the media on Monday in Mumbai. For now, a look at what lies ahead for the coach and the team Down Under...

MCSWEENEY TO OPEN FOR AUSTRALIA

Uncapped Nathan McSweeney won the race to open the batting alongside Usman Khawaja in the first Test against India while Australia also handed a maiden Test call up to Josh Inglis on Sunday.

Squad for 1st Test: Cummins (c), Boland, Carey, Hazlewood, Head, Inglis, Khawaja, Labuschagne, Lyon, Marsh, McSweeney, Smith, Starc.

• Delivering first punch

Yes, India recovered from a 36 all out last time but miracles don't happen regularly. For India to have a good series — they need 4-0 win at least to qualify for the WTC final — they have to start well in Perth. It's going to be real test as captain Rohit is set to miss the game for the birth of his child.

• Issue against pace

As much as the memes are doing rounds about Pat Cummins and Nathan Lyon turning Perth into a rank turner after India's performance against New Zealand spinners, there is a real concern about how they are going to handle pace. At least two of the top six are expected to be playing in Australia for the first time in Tests and the two senior-most batters are not in good form. If things don't go well, it could be a long tour for the team.

• Middle-order conundrum

With KL Rahul expected to open in the absence of Rohit in Perth, it leaves a void in the middle-order. At this point, Dhruv Jurel seems the likely candidate to play as a batter but with Sarfaraz Khan and Nitish K Reddy in the mix, it opens all sorts of headaches for the coach and captain, which is likely to be Jasprit Bumrah, in Perth. One wrong selection could affect the team balance.

• Feeling the heat

Two months ago, Gambhir was the man with the midas touch. He, along with T20 World Cup-winning captain Rohit, was expected to get going right away. An ODI series loss in Sri Lanka and a historic home series loss after, not all seems rosy about the head coach who was appointed after his IPL success. How this tour goes could well decide the direction in which his tenure goes.

• Pace battery

In 2020-21, one of the key factors behind India's success was their pace attack. Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Umesh Yadav led from front but whoever came in — Mohammed Siraj, Shardul Thakur, T Natarajan, Navdeep Saini — they all chipped in. This time, a lot will depend on how much the likes of Akash Deep, Harshit Rana and Prasidh Krishna can help out Bumrah and an out-of-rhythm Siraj. Do not be surprised if Mukesh Kumar gets added to the squad at some point during the tour.

Varun Chakravarthy celebrates with Sanju Samson on Sunday | AFP

Varun fifer in vain as hosts SA level series 1-1

ENS/AGENCIES @ Chennai

A POOR display with the bat saw India post a modest 124 for six against South Africa in the second T20I of the four-match series in Gqeberha on Sunday. In reply, spinner Varun Chakravarthy took a fifer (5/17) to keep India in control of the game. However, Tristan Stubbs and Gerald Coetzee held fort for South Africa after the early collapse to take them home.

Earlier, India faltered early, slipping to 15/3 within the first four overs as the top-order crumbled. Axar Patel (27) stabilised the innings with key partnerships, adding 30 runs with Tilak Varma (20) and 25 runs with Hardik Pandya. However, South Africa maintained control, picking up wickets at regular intervals. Top-scorer Pandya (39) provided a late surge with a few big hits, helping India to a more respectable total. Marco Jansen (1/25), Gerald Coetzee (1/25), Andile Simelane (1/20), Nqabayomzi Peter (1/20) all contributed with wickets.

Brief scores: India: 124/6 in 20 ovs (Pandya 39 not out, Axar 27; Simelane 1/20, Markram 1/4, Peter 1/20) **lost to** SA 128/7 in 19 ovs (Stubbs 47 n.o, Coetzee 19 n.o; Varun 5/17).

CHENNAI GRAND MASTERS

Chess balm for Harika during postpartum phase

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @ Chennai

WHEN D Harika started feeling the effects of postpartum following the birth of her daughter in 2022, it was 'extremely hard to accept the changes I was having'. "Changes to the body, mentally and everything," she tells this daily after the fifth round of the Chennai Grand Masters at the Anna Centenary Library on Saturday.

Harika identified her own path to self-healing — chess. "I realised that to heal myself was to keep doing what I had been doing all my life, can't give up. It was to keep playing chess. Until my daughter needed me, I was there for her at home. When I realised she was fine with my parents, I started travelling and playing. Initially, I was travelling only five days or one week at a time. Later on, I started travelling (normally)."

It's not a surprise to know that mother and daughter bond through chess when Harika is home. "She just says 'Amma, chess board (smiles)' but she doesn't even play five-10 minutes with it. However, it's a fun process for all of us. She knows all the pieces and makes sounds, of the knight for example."

Like most young mothers, Harika had to make the difficult choice of staying home or travelling. She was reassured when her daughter replied in the affirmative. "I'm used to it and she's also used to it," Harika says. "When I ask her 'do you miss me,' she says 'yes'. When I asked her 'should I play tournaments or be with you, she was like 'you play'. It's wonderful whenever I win because that's what makes it worth it to leave the daughter and come out."

It's why her Olympiad gold in August added a delightful coat of varnish apart from the 'personal satisfaction'. "Wouldn't do it any other way," she says. "Definitely worth it, the overall journey and the process. I have loved my journey so far. It was one of my most memorable moments. More than anything, it gave me personal satisfaction. This is something I wanted and it's now done. I hope things keep getting better and better for the chess fans and players in India."

With her daughter old enough to travel, would Harika consider taking her to international tournaments? "You become a different person around your baby," she says. "Also, it's too much work if I have to take her out. Even if I get someone like my grandmother, I need someone to take care of both of them. Maybe I can do that in Indian tournaments. When you become a mother, you become a little bit more soft and you need to be more focussed and serious during tournaments. So I don't prefer to travel too much during tournaments."

There was a phase when she used to video call home during tournaments to check up on her daughter. These days, not so much. "She's now in the toddler phase and isn't even interested in talking that much," the 33-year-old smiles. "More keen on running around."

In the ongoing competition, Harika has had a 'lot of learning'; three draws and three losses after six rounds. "It's been tough," she says. "I knew that coming here, all are youngsters. But the whole point is to learn, to get better. It's been a while since I played in the Open section but I'm enjoying and learning."

The India No 2 behind Koneru Humpy hopes she can continue stacking up the medals for herself and the country going forward.

MASTERS

Parham Maghsoodloo drew with Amin Tabatabaei, Alexey Sarana drew with Maxime-Vachier Lagrave, Aravindh Chithambaram bt Arjun Erigaisi, Levon Aronian drew with Vidit Gujrathi

Monday's matches

Tabatabaei vs Aronian, Gujrathi vs Sarana, Vachier-Lagrave vs Erigaisi, Chithambaram vs Maghsoodloo

Aravindh Chithambaram in action during the Chennai Grand Masters being held at Anna Centenary Library on Sunday | MARTIN LOUIS

CHALLENGERS

Abhimanyu Puranik bt R Vaishali, D Harika drew with Raunak Sadhwani, V Pranav drew with M Pranesh, Leon Mendonca bt Karthikeyan Murali

Monday's matches: Mendonca vs V Pranav, Harika vs Pranesh, Sadhwani vs Puranik, Vaishali vs Murali.

D Harika | CHENNAI GM

EXPRESS READ

Cycling great Cavendish wins final race

SINGAPORE: Mark Cavendish sprinted to victory on Sunday in the Tour de France Singapore Criterium with a signature surge to the line in his final race. "I really wanted that so bad," the 39-year-old cycling great from Britain said after the 166th victory of his glorious career. "I'm terribly emotional. I realised in the last five laps that this was the last 15 kilometres of my career and I felt that, but I was so much on the limit," Cavendish said after the win.

Nat'l level shot-putter found dead in Bhopal

BHOPAL: Amit Verma, a national level shot-put player, was found dead in his apartment in Madhya Pradesh capital Bhopal on Sunday, an official reportedly said. Verma's friends reached his house after he did not respond to their calls in the morning, TT Nagar police station in-charge Sunil Singh Bhadoria told a news agency. The friends broke open the door when the 22-year-old athlete did not answer the doorbell. They found his body inside the apartment, the official said.

Post WC loss, Jemimah set for new learnings

KALYANI MANGALE @ Chennai

FOR Jemimah Rodrigues and the Indian women's cricket team, the month of October in Dubai was not that kind. An early exit from the T20 World Cup meant the ODI series against recently crowned World Champions New Zealand came with an emotional baggage. The team was still hurting and the vice-captain Smriti Mandhana admitted so.

However, with the crucial ODI series against Australia and eventually another World Cup, that too on home soil coming up in 2025, the team wants to forget about it and move on. "If I can be very frank, we didn't play the best cricket that we should have played as an Indian team and each one of us knew that it's still hurting all of us," Rodrigues, currently playing as an overseas international with Brisbane Heat in the Women's Big Bash League, told media from Brisbane. "At the same time, it was one of those tournaments we would want to forget and move forward because we have the 50-over WC at home and we want to prepare well for that. Each player performs and takes the team through. I think what we spoke about in the dressing room was we need to look inside rather than pointing at others. Each individual knows what they need to do and how they need to get better and come," she added.

PIC: BRISBANE HEAT/IG

It was one of those tournaments we would want to forget and move forward because we have the 50 over World Cup at home and we want to prepare well for that. I think, what we spoke about in the dressing room was we need to look inside rather than pointing at others.

— Jemimah Rodrigues on India's T20 World Cup campaign

Rodrigues was drafted by the Brisbane Heat ahead of the 10th season of WBBL and has made most of her opportunities with the bat so far. In the game against defending champions Adelaide Strikers, her 61 off 40 balls came in handy for her side at the Gabba. The 24-year-old has also featured in other franchise leagues like The Hundred and Women's Caribbean Premier League and so far she learned things from all these experiences. "Playing these foreign leagues and playing the WPL does help because you play against the best in the world in all these leagues. You get to play in different conditions. Even in India, we play in different conditions. I think that is one of the best parts of playing franchise cricket, you get used to the conditions and you get to play the top bowlers in women's cricket. The more matches we play, the better we become. As a player just playing matches and as a batter scoring runs wherever you play gives you a lot of confidence."

"Going out there scoring in leagues playing in challenging conditions, different teams, bowling attacks, and plans. I'm grateful to Brisbane here for picking me up that I get to play because the more I play such tournaments and such matches, the more I learn about my game. I know the plans of the bowlers when they come to me so I can prepare accordingly."

Full story: newindianexpress.com

PCB seeks govt's advice on India not touring for 2025 Champions Trophy

GOMESH S & FIROZ MIRZA @ Chennai

WITH the BCCI communicating to the global cricketing body about not travelling to Pakistan for the Champions Trophy which is scheduled to take place in February 2025, the ICC has officially informed PCB of the same through an email, it is learnt on Sunday.

The Pakistan Cricket Board, as things stand, have taken cognisance of the communication and forwarded the email to their government. "The PCB has received an email from the ICC, stating that the BCCI has informed them that their team will not travel to Pakistan for the ICC Champions Trophy 2025. The PCB has forwarded that email to the Government of Pakistan for their advice and guidance," a PCB spokesperson said.

This development comes days after reports emerged about BCCI informing PCB regarding their non-travel and preference for a hybrid model on Friday. Hours after the reports emerged, Mohsin Naqvi, PCB Chairperson, had categorically denied it. "Till today, no one has discussed any 'Hybrid Model' with us nor are we willing to talk about it. But we have been showing good gestures for the last few years and no one should expect us to do it all the time," Naqvi had told reporters on Friday.

On Saturday, it was confirmed that the BCCI had informed the ICC about not sending the team to Pakistan officially, which the global body has communicated to the Pakistan Cricket Board. "I will take anything in writing to the government and whatever decision they take we have to follow them. If we get anything in writing on India coming or not coming to Pakistan I will first share it with the government and media," Naqvi had said on Friday.

Last year, when the Asia Cup was supposed to be played in Pakistan, it was changed into a hybrid model with India playing all their games in Sri Lanka while a part of the tournament was played in the actual host country. Whether the trend will continue with the United Arab Emirates and Sri Lanka as preferred co-hosts or not will now depend on how the PCB and Pakistan government reacts. As things stand, the picture is expected to get clearer in the coming days with a final decision made on the event before the end of this month.

India and Pakistan have been a marquee tie in every ICC tournament. However, Indian cricket team has not toured Pakistan since 2008 due to the political tension between the two countries. It all came to a stop after the 26/11 terror attack in Mumbai in 2008. Pakistan did travel to India in 2012 for a white-ball series which was coincidentally the last bilateral series between two countries.

Odisha FC and Mohun Bagan players in action on Sunday | SHAMIM QURESHY

Bagan come back from behind to hold Odisha

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhubaneswar

Odisha FC made a dream start in front of their home fans against Mohun Bagan in the Indian Super League on Sunday. Hugo Boumous scored as early as the fourth minute to hand them an early advantage. However, that was not enough as Manvir Singh scored a brilliant header for the visitors to earn them a vital point. The match finished 1-1.

With a point each for both sides, Bagan remained in second spot with 14 points while Odisha remained in ninth spot. This is a missed opportunity for Odisha as they now have earned just two points in their last three outings.

Things looked bright when Boumous scored against his former club very early on in the tie. After earning a rare indirect freekick inside the penalty box, the Frenchman managed to get his shot past the crowd into the back of the net.

The equaliser was neat as well as Manvir, receiving the ball from a corner kick, managed to get a sweet connection with his head.

Man City lose again, Liverpool extend lead

Manchester City and Arsenal dropped points yet again while Arne Slot's men continued their dream start to the season. A look at this weekend's big results in the Premier League...

BRIGHTON 2-1 MAN CITY

Manchester City slumped to a fourth straight defeat after blowing the lead to lose 2-1 at Brighton. City had not suffered defeat in the league for nearly a year prior to losing at Bournemouth last weekend. Things were looking bright when Erling Haaland handed City the lead. City, though, were opened up at will in the second half & were punished by a pair of Brighton substitutes. Joao Pedro fired in the equaliser after City failed to clear in a goalmouth scramble. Matt O'Riley marked his PL debut in style when he slotted in from Pedro's pass seven minutes from time.

1 It was also the first time City had lost four successive games since a run between April and August 2006 under Stuart Pearce.

Liverpool's Mohamed Salah celebrates after scoring his side's 2nd goal against Aston Villa | AP

15 Liverpool's 15th win in 17 games since Slot took charge moves them into a commanding position in the title race.

LIVERPOOL 2-0 ASTON VILLA

Liverpool opened up a five-point lead at the top as Darwin Nunez and Mohamed Salah struck in a 2-0 win over Aston Villa. The Reds took full advantage of City's latest defeat to surge further clear of the champions. Arne Slot's men were again defensively solid to protect a sixth clean sheet in 11 league games and take a firm grip on the title race. In a superb counter-attack in the 20th minute, Salah was sent racing clear by Virgil van Dijk. When Salah tumbled to the turf under pressure, Nunez seized on the loose ball and fired high into the net from an acute angle. Later, Salah's composed finish in the 84th minute after another rapid Liverpool raid sealed their ninth win in 11 league games.

10 Arsenal have dropped 10 pts in their last four PL ties.

CHELSEA 1-1 ARSENAL

Arsenal gave it all in their quest for a win but were held 1-1 by Chelsea in the London Derby at the Stamford Bridge on Sunday. Gabriel Martinelli beat keeper Robert Sanchez at the near post to put the Gunners in front. However, Pedro Neto scored his first Premier League goal for Chelsea just 10 minutes later to earn a vital point for the Blues. With this result, Arsenal are now nine points behind leaders Liverpool and four points behind City.

Results (Sunday): N Forest 1-3 Newcastle; Tottenham 1-2 Ipswich; Man United 3-0 Leicester.

KNOCK, KNOCK MBA! IT'S NMAT THIS TIME!

EdexLive is back with more on the MBA entrance exam NMAT, which opens doors of prestigious institutions like Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) for them. **Lovely Majumdar** speaks to **GMAC's Gaurav Srivastava** to pick his brains about the adaptive nature of the exam and its popularity in India as well as abroad

GAURAV Srivastava, Regional Director - APAC, Middle East & Africa at the Graduate Management Admission Council® (GMAC®) is here again to put to rest your ailing questions, and offer valuable insights into NMAT.

• Considering the increasing popularity of MBA programmes, how do you perceive their growing significance over the years? What factors contribute to the high-paying roles they provide for graduates?

We think that the demand for MBA programmes is only going to grow given the complexity and skills that the workplace of the future is going to require from their workforce.

The MBA programme is an extremely well-worth investment for students to make, given that the skills that they acquire will last them for a lifetime and also provide them with an edge over their co-workers who may not have a Master of Business Administration (MBA) or master's degree.

ask away

• What are the advantages it has over other MBA tests?

The NMAT exam is structured to be competitive while being candidate-friendly. The NMAT exam assesses the candidate's aptitude in: Language Skills, Quantitative Skills, and Logical Reasoning.

- Each section is equally weighted and consists of 36 questions.
- The score ranges from 12 to 120.
- NMAT overall score ranges from a minimum of 36 to a maximum of 360.
- There is no negative marking in the NMAT exam, which eases off the pressure on candidates to some extent.
- Candidates can choose their section order; this means they can start with the section they feel most confident about.

• What does "adaptive test format" mean in the context of the NMAT exam?

NMAT is a high-quality, secure 'Computer Adaptive Test' in which a candidate's ability is estimated successively based on the responses to the questions administered, which are tailored to the candidate's current ability estimate.

- This means except for the first question, the subsequent questions that test-takers will be exposed to in the exam will depend on the performance (correctness) in the preceding question(s).
- It gives a better user experience as the difficulty level of the questions is in tune with the candidate's ability.
- This ensures that every candidate gets an ability-based score which builds their confidence and enables them to apply to accepting schools/programmes.
- The innovative adaptive algorithm underpinning the NMAT exam reduces item exposure which minimises test item overlap and hence ensures fairness.

• The NMAT offers a flexible testing window. How does this benefit candidates, and what feedback have you received from test-takers regarding this feature? Do institutions accept test scores for other attempts during admissions?

NMAT's flexible testing window allows candidates to choose the exam date as per their convenience while most exams are conducted on a specific date. If candidates are unable to appear for the exam on that date due to unavoidable reasons, then they often end up dropping a year and re-appearing for that exam in the next academic session.

Hence, in the NMAT, candidates appreciate this flexibility and moreover, they can reschedule the exam 72 hours prior to the exam date if they are unable to appear on the selected date.

• What measures are in place to ensure a smooth and positive experience for candidates during the NMAT examination process?

Over the years we have steadily been increasing our network of test centres and we are currently delivering the test in 83 cities (last year: 73 cities) in India.

The NMAT website (*www.mba.com/nmat*) provides complete information about the exam in a single place such as accepting schools, check-in processes on the day of the exam, ID and other document requirements, preparation tools or any other information including FAQs that candidates may look for. To make the registration process easy and smooth, detailed steps and a video demonstrating the steps are also available for candidates.

We also educate them about prohibited practices that have stringent consequences like score cancellations and a ban on future testing.

Candidates can also reach out to NMAT customer care which is operational 24*7 from August 1 to the end of January 2025, in case they face any issues or have any queries, via email or phone.

ELT RESOURCE PERSON AND EDUCATION COLUMNIST TALKS ABOUT PARA JUMBLE AND READING COMPREHENSION, OFFERING SPECIFIC TIPS

PARA JUMBLE

PARA jumble questions evaluate test takers' logical reasoning and language skills. For example, choose the most logical order of the following sentences to create a coherent paragraph:

a. The first reason is that it is a prestigious institution for higher education.

b. He opted to study at this institute for two reasons.

c. John Abraham is a student at IIT Madras.

d. The second reason is that it is in his home state.

These sentences are jumbled. The pronouns "he" and "it" refer to John and IIT Madras, respectively, indicating how to arrange them logically.

TIPS

Quickly read all four sentences.

Identify the opening sentence that introduces the main idea.

Look for pronouns and references that refer to previously mentioned nouns.

Search for linking words or phrases like "first," "second," "finally," "for example," and "in addition" to help sequence the sentences.

After arranging the sentences, read them aloud to ensure they flow logically (though you can't do this on exam day).

READING COMPREHENSION

Regularly reading articles of 500-800 words can enhance comprehension of main ideas. Here are some strategies:

1. Reading the questions first can be inefficient. Instead, skim the passage to grasp the main idea using clues from headings, subheadings, and keywords.
2. Familiarise yourself with common types of reading comprehension questions: Main idea, inference, vocabulary in context, specific details, structure, and author's purpose and tone.
3. Understand the purpose of the text and the author's tone while reading.
4. Infer the meanings of new words from context instead of spending excessive time on definitions.
5. Take mock tests and track your time spent on reading comprehension to improve scores.

Dr Albert P'Rayan, English Language Teaching (ELT) professional

Investing in your MBA

From NMAT fees to MBA salaries, here's how you can plan your financial journey

CONTENT

NMAT Exam Fees:

Registration Fee: `3,000 + applicable taxes

Retake Fee: `3,000 + applicable taxes per retake

Rescheduling Fee: `1,200 + applicable taxes

Additional Score Reports: `400 + applicable taxes per program beyond the first five

AVERAGE MBA TUITION COSTS

In India, the cost of an MBA programme varies widely based on the institute's reputation and ranking. At well-known institutes, total fees can range from approximately `20 to `30 lakh, while programmes at mid-range institutes typically fall between `10 and `15 lakh. A few institutions offer MBA programmes for `5 to `10 lakh as well.

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Post-MBA starting salaries can also vary based on the institute's prestige and industry connections. Graduates from highly ranked institutes may begin with average annual salaries between `20 to `35 lakh, while those from mid-range institutes may expect starting salaries around `10 to `15 lakh.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

FINANCIAL PLANNING TIPS

Scholarships and grants: Research institute-specific scholarships or government grants.

Education loans: Compare interest rates and repayment options from banks.

Budgeting: Account for living expenses, books, and personal expenses.

Your passport to global B-Schools

As many as 27 colleges worldwide now accept NMAT scores for MBA admissions, bringing diverse global opportunities within their reach

top list

Top five B-Schools, work experience they require & their QS rankings

Nigeria
Lagos Business School
QS: 251+
Work Experience: 3+

Morocco: Africa Business School
QS n/a; **Work Experience:** 5+

Hungary
Corvinus University of Budapest
QS: 151-200
Work Experience: 3+

Philippines
Asian Institute of Management
QS: 131-140
Work Experience: 2+ years

South Africa
Wits Business School
QS: 141-150
Work Experience: 4+

NMIMS onNMAT

The influx of students at Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS), Bengaluru, has evolved considerably, driven by several key factors such as the introduction of the NMAT exam, stronger placement prospects with diverse job opportunities and recent initiatives to bring in state of the art facilities and pedagogy. These initiatives have played a crucial role in attracting a diverse pool of applicants, allowing the institute to maintain high academic standards while expanding its reach.

— Ekalavya Baruah, Joint Director - Placements, NMIMS, Bengaluru

COMMITMENT TO INCLUSIVITY

How NMAT makes testing inclusive for all abilities

- NMAT by GMAC provides essential support to ensure all candidates have an equal testing experience. Accommodations include extra time, enlarged font options, wheelchair accessibility, and allowance for necessary medical devices like inhalers. Candidates can also bring a reader, scribe, or personal care assistant with prior approval, ensuring they have the assistance they need on exam day.
- Learning, physical, systemic, psychological, sensory (vision and hearing), and attention deficit/hyperactivity disorders, along with other documented disabilities, are eligible for accommodation.

HOW TO REQUEST ACCOMMODATIONS

DURING REGISTRATION: • Select "Yes" for "Are You Differently Abled?"
• Choose your disability type and required accommodations.

PROVIDE RATIONALE: • Explain your needs in up to 250 words.

SUBMIT DOCUMENTATION: • Upload supporting documents (medical certificates, consent forms).

REVIEW PERIOD: • Allow approximately 15 days for request processing.

APPROVAL AND SCHEDULING: • Upon approval, proceed to payment and schedule your exam with accommodations.

IMPORTANT NOTES

Advance submission: Submit requests well before your desired test date.

Complete documentation: Incomplete forms may delay the process.

Authorized assistance only: Only pre-approved aides are allowed in the testing room.

AVOID THESE PREP FALLS!

Essential do's and don'ts for success on exam day

EXAMS! FOR SOME, THE VERY WORD EVOKES A SENSE OF DREAD! DON'T WORRY. WITH A CALM AND COMPOSED MIND, ALL IS CONQUERABLE

DON'T	DO
Procrastination	
Delay starting your preparation.	Begin early to cover all topics thoroughly.
Ignoring Weak Areas	
Avoid sections you find challenging.	Focus on improving weaker subjects.
Overlooking Mock Tests	
Skip full-length practice exams.	Regularly take mocks to simulate exam conditions.
Poor Time Management	
Spend too much time on difficult questions.	Practice pacing to attempt all questions.
Neglecting Health	
Sacrifice sleep & nutrition.	Maintain a balanced lifestyle.

MORE TIPS

Create a study plan with realistic goals and timelines.

Allocate time for prep based on personal proficiency and section weightage.

Regularly revisit and revise topics to reinforce learning.

Keep abreast of any exam updates or changes.

— *Compiled by Nikhil Abhishek*

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MONDAY

DAY'S DIARY

Gemini 12 launch

Gemini 12, the tenth and final flight of the Gemini series, was launched from Complex 1966. It bridged the Mercury and Apollo programmes

ONBOARD CREW

This mission, carrying astronauts Jim Lovell and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, was scheduled to perform rendezvous and docking with the Agena target vehicle

MAJOR COMPONENTS

The spacecraft was a cone-shaped capsule consisting of two components, a reentry module and an adaptor module

THE MISSION

The Gemini programme was chiefly designed to test the ability of astronauts to maneuver their spacecraft by means of manual control

CE's guide to happenings in the city

PG 2

Grammy nominees Ricky Kej and Varijashree Venugopal open up about the creative journeys behind their celebrated works—from Kej's exploration of mental wellness in 'Break of Dawn' to Venugopal's featured performance alongside Jacob Collier and Anoushka Shankar—reflecting on the passion, purpose, and global recognition that fuel their music

Roots & Reverie

DESE GOWDA

YOU'D think that with every nomination or win, the excitement might lessen, but that's not the case for me at all," says **Ricky Kej**, reflecting on the Grammy nomination for his latest album, 'Break of Dawn' — his fourth in ten years. "Every piece of music I create isn't something that's commissioned, like for a film or specific project. I feel that with each album, I've grown not only as a musician but also as a person... this nomination feels like validation for something that I truly love."

Known for his espousal of environmental causes, the city-based musician turns his musical efforts toward exploring how music can support mental wellness with 'Break of Dawn.' The album is based on nine Indian classical ragas, each carefully chosen to promote calm, balance, and introspection. To bring this vision to life, he collaborated with scientists and wellness experts from institutions worldwide. "Stanford University's Global Health department gave me a beautiful citation," he shares, "We all know music has a calming influence and can transport us, but I wanted to quantify this effect. The vision is that doctors might one day prescribe this music to patients, just as they would prescribe medicine or physiotherapy."

This focus on creating wellness music is a departure from Kej's previous collaborative works, including 'Divine Tides,' his Grammy-winning project with American composer Stewart Copeland. For 'Break of Dawn,' Kej returns to his roots as a solo artiste, drawing from his early years of self-directed compositions. "My first few albums, from around 1999 to 2010, were solo efforts," he recalls. With 'Break of Dawn,' Kej aimed for a "personal and deeply connected" album, one that allowed him to explore wellness in a profoundly introspective way.

At the heart of 'Break of Dawn' are Indian instruments like the bansuri, veena, and sitar, all known for their expressive sounds that evoke the natural rhythms of breath and life. "The bansuri has the ability to glide between notes, adding dynamics and an emotional resonance," he explains. Unlike many recordings that edit out the breath sounds, Kej embraces them, saying they add intimacy and authenticity to the listening experience that reflects the personal nature of the album.

For Kej, the Grammy nomination also represents the appeal of indigenous music on the world stage. "There's a huge misconception that to achieve global recognition, one has to perform music that is Western in style or somehow 'neutral,'" he notes, pointing to a long legacy of musicians who have taken Indian music to international audiences, like Pandit Ravi Shankar and Ustad Zakir Hussain. "Ask yourself what makes you uniquely Indian, or uniquely yourself, and create music from that foundation," Kej advises aspiring musicians, encouraging them to seek authenticity over conformity.

Beyond personal creativity, Kej hopes his Grammy nomination will spark broader conversations around mental health and the therapeutic potential of music. "Every award provides a platform to achieve bigger, better things and to spread awareness," he says, emphasising his desire to dismantle stigma around mental wellness. He believes that music's purpose can extend beyond entertainment, inspiring both inner peace and positive social change.

'A pat on the back for independent artistes'

DESE GOWDA

FOR **Varijashree Venugopal**, her recent Grammy nomination is a deeply personal achievement; it's a recognition of her dedication to her craft and her unique approach to bridging Indian classical music with global sounds. "It was really exciting and reassuring," she says about first hearing the news. "This kind of acknowledgement is a big pat on the back for any independent artiste, especially when it's a struggle just to be noticed, both here in India and around the world." She continues, "It shows that my efforts to find my own voice and bring out my Indian musical roots are being noticed and appreciated. This is just the beginning – there's so much more to explore."

The nomination - her first - recognises the city-based flautist and vocalist's unique contributions to *A Rock Somewhere*, the song by British singer-songwriter Jacob Collier, which also features sitarist Anoushka Shankar. Reflecting on how the collaboration came to be, Venugopal shares, "When he [Collier] was working on *A Rock Somewhere*, he wanted to weave Indian sounds into his global track. Jacob is a rare talent, and I've always admired his work. He invited me to be part of the song, so I recorded my part from Bengaluru, sent it to him, and we collaborated remotely, discussing ideas as we went. It turned into a very special song, and I'll always be glad I was part of that collaboration."

Her role in the track is distinctive. "I provide vocals but it is entirely non-lyrical. I've been exploring this space over the past few years, where I use my voice more like an instrument, weaving a sonic, melodic storyline that brings together the emotional core of the song," she explains. "So, while I am a vocalist, in this track, I'm more of a 'vocal instrumentalist.' I think this was exactly the unique element Jacob wanted, as it brings the essence of Indian singing to the song."

> *Recognition like this is a nod, a signal to the world, that definitely amplifies opportunities...Without these platforms, it's easy to remain unseen, doing your own work privately without much visibility*
>
> Varijashree Venugopal, singer

PIC: ERIC MEURICE

She further highlights the song's complex musical structure, which combines Indian classical melody with intricate harmonies. "There's a lot happening in the song –undercurrents of intricate, almost mathematical structures and harmonies," she says. "In Indian classical music, harmony isn't typically a focus because it's so highly melodic. So, blending these worlds of harmony and Indian melody was something we discussed. Jacob shared some ideas with me, but there was also plenty of space for me to listen, find my own place in the track, and contribute in a way that kept the song's intent intact."

For Venugopal, the Grammy nomination could be a door to further opportunities to bring her Indian roots to global audiences. "I think that's the whole purpose of recognition from musical communities and institutions," she reflects. "They highlight when something new and interesting is happening, especially in a time where there's so much content out there that it can be hard to know what to explore. Recognition like this is a nod, a signal to the world, that definitely amplifies opportunities for an artiste like me. It puts my work out there, helping people to notice what I'm doing. Without these platforms, it's easy to remain unseen, doing your own work privately without much visibility."

GRUB HUB

Aslam Gafoor
(@aslamgafoor) is a hospitality professional with experience in business development, sales and marketing with well-known hotels, and food and beverage companies. A few of his passions are travel, food and wine, and he enjoys sharing these experiences as a columnist.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'.** The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE* on Monday. The winner will receive a voucher worth ₹2,500 at Neo Kitchen - Hilton Embassy Manyata Business Park**

THE RIGHT ANSWERS

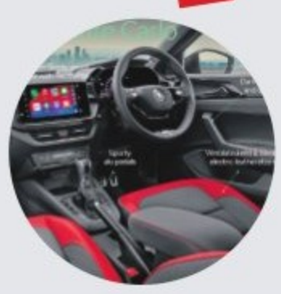
1) Culantro; 2)Shiso; 3)Perilla

FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT

1. Sargam P
2. Ashutosh Kumar
3. Lakshmi

DAPPER DASHER

P3



PICS: NAGARAJA GADEKAL

FLAVOURS OF NIPPON

WITH the return of the much-beloved Japan Food Festival over the weekend, Bengalureans thronged to Shangri-La Hotel, Palace Road, to get their fix of hot bowls of ramen, watch sushi-making demonstrations, experience an authentic tea ceremony, and much more. Some visitors went all in and dressed up in traditional kimonos. The consul general of Japan in Bengaluru, Nakane Tsutomu, enthusiastically took part in the festivities. The event was supported by Bengaluru Anime Club, Omotesenke Domonkai International Association Bengaluru, Gekkeikan, and Japan National Tourism Organisation (JNTO).

CITY READ

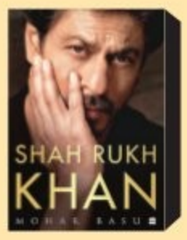
Ethnic wear brand hosts a saree run

TATA's Taneira, a women's ethnic wear brand, in collaboration with Bengaluru-based fitness company JJ Active, hosted a morning run on Sunday at Shalini Grounds, Jayanagar. Bringing together 9,230 women draped in diverse sarees, the event aimed to foster a sense of community while promoting health and inclusivity. The Bengaluru Chapter of the Taneira Saree Run was flagged off by Tejasvi Surya, MP from Bangalore South, Ambuj Narayan, CEO of Taneira, and Coach Pramod from JJ Active.

Model rocketry workshop launched

The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Center (IN-SPACe), in collaboration with the Astronautical Society of India (ASI) and the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), has launched the IN-SPACe Model Rocketry India Student Competition 2024-25 to create awareness in the field of rocketry among Indian students. After drawing participation from 86 student teams from across India, 55 teams have advanced to attend the Essentials of Model Rocketry Workshop, held in partnership with the Indian Air Force. Launched at Air Force Station, Jalahalli, the workshop to be held till November 15, was inaugurated by Dr BN Suresh, Chancellor of the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST), alongside prominent officials from the Air Force.

BOOK NOOK

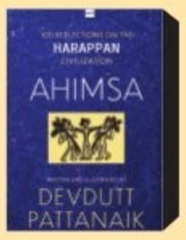


Shah Rukh Khan
by Mohar Basu

Celebrating the incredible journey of one of the world's most renowned actors. It presents the portrait of a man who means many different things to his fans.

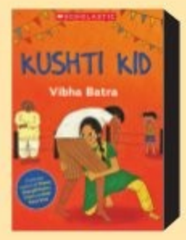
Dakini
by K Hari Kumar

While investigating a spate of unexplained deaths in a remote village, Mumbai-based journalist Mamta learns of the Dakini — a blood-thirsty entity that haunts the surrounding forests, leaving mutilated corpses in her wake.



Ahimsa
by Devdutt Pattanaik

The book presents an unprecedentedly detailed picture of the Harappan civilization that has never been seen before, providing a comprehensive insight into the mysterious historical location.



Kushti Kid
by Vibha Batra

Eager to learn kushti, Qainaat enrols in the summer course at Bal Pehalwan Akhada. Only to wrestle with big challenges inside and outside the mud pit. Will Qainaat overcome the obstacles, master the moves and win the biggest dangal of her life? Or will she get knocked out?

ADVENTURE ON WHEELS

Women bikers embark on an All-Women Bike Rally along the scenic route from Bengaluru to Puducherry | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

QUICKFIX

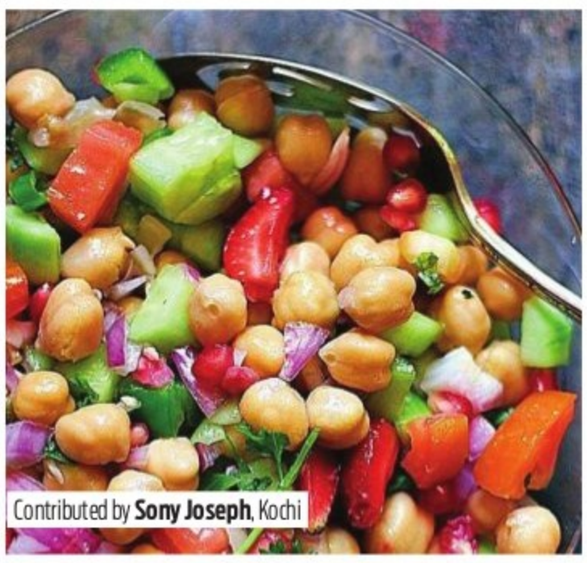
CHICKPEA SALAD

INGREDIENTS

- **Chickpeas, drained and rinsed:** 1 can (400g)
- **Cherry tomatoes, halved:** 1 cup
- **Fresh parsley or cilantro, chopped:** 1/4 cup
- **Feta cheese, crumbled (optional):** 1/4 cup
- **Cumin powder (optional for extra flavour):** 1/2 tsp
- **Cucumber, diced:** 1 cup
- **Red onion, finely chopped:** 1/4 cup
- **Salt and pepper:** to taste
- **Lemon juice:** 1 tbsp
- **Olive oil:** 1 tbsp

METHOD

- In a large bowl, combine the chickpeas, cucumber, cherry tomatoes, red onion, and parsley (or cilantro).
- Sprinkle in crumbled feta cheese for a creamy touch.
- In a small bowl, whisk together olive oil, lemon juice, salt, pepper, and cumin powder.
- Pour the dressing over the chickpea mixture. Toss well to combine, ensuring everything is evenly coated.



Contributed by **Sony Joseph**, Kochi

ASK AN XPERT

DR VIVEK ARORA

The expert is a senior veterinarian, Dr Gandhi's Pet Clinic, Delhi

I'm sometimes unprepared when my dog wants treats. I end up giving her the food we eat which has salt, say once a week. Will this cause great harm to her?

Giving your dog salty food occasionally, like once a week, can cause serious harm, and it should be avoided. Dogs don't need salt in their diets, and too much can lead to health issues like dehydration or kidney problems over time. It's best to stick to dog treats or safe fruits and veggies instead. If you do give her some of your food, try to choose items that have no salt, spices and are safe for them, like plain cooked chicken or carrots. Always follow your veterinarian, if you have concerns.

EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

@XpressBengaluru/@tniefeatures
bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com
@express_bengaluru

FITBIT

SUPTA TADASANA
(RECLINED MOUNTAIN POSE)

This is a beginner-level, grounding pose performed supine, which is a stepping stone to a deeper consciousness and meditative practices. It awakens the breath-body awareness — observing the body in stillness and still being aware of the body alignment, which is the main difference between a Savasana (Corpse Pose) and Supta Tadasana (Reclined Mount Pose). The seven chakras are balanced. Here, the prana is floating, and energy is calm. Here, the breath automatically happens from the thoracic region because the core is firm. It is amazing for body posture, alertness in the spine and toning of the legs, glutes, hips. It strengthens the knees, ankle joints and feet.

STEPS

- Lie down on the mat, feet touching a wall for support, and the back completely on the mat.
- The toes and heels must be near each other. Press the balls of the feet and the heel into the wall.
- This straightens the legs and consciously aligns the chin near the neck. Firm the thighs down to engage the leg muscles.
- Feel the pelvis in a neutral position on the floor and sacrum rested on the mat evenly. This consciously tightens your core.
- Take the arms about 10 inches away from the sides. Then, reposition the shoulder blades by lifting them onto the back of the head and drawing the blades down and in. Your neck will be long and free.
- Consciously tuck the chin towards the neck, closely. The back of the neck, like the lower back, is not touching the floor.
- Move the head side to side, up and down, and ear to shoulder gently, breathing. Find one point of balance on the back head where the chin is perpendicular to the floor, tucked in, near the neck, feeling balance throughout the body.

BENEFITS

- Helps strengthen the knees and core.
- Shoulders and upper back are aligned neatly, stabling the chest and arms.
- Helps improve focus, concentration, and awaken a deeper consciousness.
- Helps boost energy levels, rejuvenate mind and body.
- Helps beat the blues and strengthens the nervous system.
- Good asana to do after a tiring day.
- Effective in spinal toning; improves memory
- Good for senior citizens, teens, kids.
- Pregnant women can do this till the second trimester.
- It can be practised by athletes and before playing or as a cool down after their rigorous routine.
- Beneficial for people who have had long-term illness like jaundice or typhoid.
- Helps those who are unable to perform daily tasks, are indecisive, hyper, and suffer from insomnia.

LIMITATIONS

- Senior citizens and people recovering from prolonged illness who can't lie on the floor can practise on their beds.
- Those who have undergone spinal surgeries or have severe spinal hernias, shoulder or hip injuries, avoid this practice.
- For therapy and restorative yoga sequences to treat insomnia, mild depression, anxiety or brain-related illness, do this only through clinical analysis.

By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

WHATWHENWHYWHERE

Bakes & Laughs

Get ready for an evening of laughter and treats, pairing stand-up comedy with freshly baked delights in a relaxed setting. Come with friends and family for a unique blend of humour and culinary indulgence.

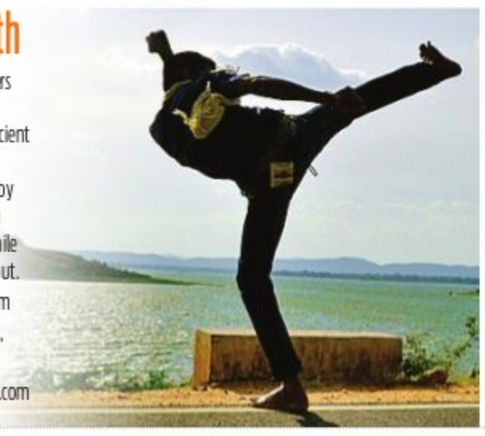
WHEN: November 11, 8pm
WHERE: Glens BakeHouse, HRBR Layout
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Caffeinated Creativity

Discover the unique art of coffee painting at this workshop designed for all skill levels. Explore creative freedom while crafting your coffee-infused masterpieces with expert guidance.

WHEN: November 11, 2pm
WHERE: Tiddly Tavern Bar and Grill, Whitefield Main Road
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Limitless Strength



This Muay Thai workshop offers an opportunity to master the dynamic techniques of the ancient martial art, utilising punches, elbows, knees, and kicks. Led by an experienced instructor, you will get to refine your skills while engaging in a full-body workout.

WHEN: November 11, 5pm
WHERE: The Fit Ground, Koramangala
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Theatre Time

Enjoy Neil Simon's classic comedy *The Odd Couple*, where messy Oscar and tidy Felix move in together, creating a chaotic and hilarious mismatch.

WHEN: November 15, 7.30pm
WHERE: Jagriti Theatre, Whitefield
DETAILS: jagrititheatre.com

Film Screening

Attend a special screening of three films exploring Uttarakhand's rich cultural heritage. Watch *The Nomad's Land: Van Gujjars* on the Van Gujjar community, and *Bahi* on the ancestral record-keeping tradition of Haridwar.

WHEN: November 14, 6pm
WHERE: Museum of Art and Photography, Ashok Nagar
DETAILS: map-india.org

Endless Thrills

From box cricket and archery to volleyball, cycling, and sumo wrestling, this event will off you a wide range of adventures ideal for family enjoyment.

WHEN: November 11, 11am
WHERE: Mugabu Sports, Dommasandra
CALL: 96326 77093

Bollywood Bliss

Begin an exciting journey with Bollywood to explore iconic choreography. Perfect for those keen to experience the vibrant culture of Bollywood dance in a fun and dynamic way.

WHEN: November 11, 7.15pm
WHERE: LVDS, Indiranagar
CALL: 98452 39123

Groove in Joy

Step into a captivating evening of music, dance, and dynamic performances. Experience a vibrant fusion of sounds and an energetic atmosphere, creating the perfect setting to unwind.

WHEN: November 11, 8pm
WHERE: PEBBLE The Jungle Lounge, Jayamahal
DETAILS: insider.in

ARTCORNER

FRUITS OF LABOUR

Valay Gada captures a charming dreamscape of simple joys through ink work on paper.

DAPPER DASHER

Putting the new spunky Škoda Slavia to test on the Buddh Int'l Circuit

LEKSHMI C PILLAI

FOR any petrolhead, burning rubber on the Buddh International Circuit near Delhi is the stuff of joie de vivre. I recently had the exhilarating opportunity to experience just that, thanks to Škoda. Let me take you through the thrills of a day spent behind the wheel of the Slavia Monte Carlo edition.

Why the Buddh International Circuit?

The Buddh International Circuit (BIC), is India's premier motor racing circuit, located in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh. Named after Gautama Buddha, the track spans 5.125 km and was inaugurated on October 18, 2011. Most famously, it hosted the Formula One Indian Grand Prix from 2011 to 2014. Nowadays, car manufacturers host track days at BIC, offering enthusiasts a chance to push their vehicles to the limit in a safe, controlled environment. These events allow drivers to fully experience a car's acceleration, handling, and braking – capabilities that simply can't be explored on public roads.

What's the Monte Carlo buzz?

Škoda, a brand under the VW group, has made waves in India with its popular Kushaq SUV and Slavia sedan, both built on a mid-size car platform. Now, to celebrate its 112-year anniversary of competing in the legendary Rallye Monte Carlo, Škoda India took the Slavia to the BIC to launch the Monte Carlo.

It's important to note that the Monte Carlo edition doesn't come with technical upgrades, but only cosmetic enhancements that give the car a sportier look. The Monte Carlo version features a blacked-out grille, ORVMs, alloy wheels, and roof, along with an all-black interior accented by red inserts on the dashboard, upholstery, and displays. The result is a car that looks every bit as dynamic as it feels on the track.

Revving it up

The Škoda Slavia Monte Carlo comes equipped with the reliable 1.0-litre and 1.5-litre turbocharged petrol engines. I drove the 1.5-litre model with a seven-speed dual-clutch (DSG) automatic transmission, offering a robust 150PS of power and 250Nm of torque. My first lap around the track was as a passenger, with an instructor at the wheel. Helmets on, we raced through the circuit as the instructor explained the nuances of the track and how the car handled the more challenging stretches.

Once I took the driver's seat, the Slavia didn't disappoint. I reached a thrilling 175km/h, with the car maintaining perfect control at every turn. The precision of the steering, combined with the electronic stability programme, ensured I could confidently tackle sharp corners and straightaways alike.

Beyond the track, we tested the car in a series of dynamic challenges. The Slalom test, where I manoeuvred through a zigzag course of cones, showed off the car's nimble handling and stability. The Autocross Test required precise navigation around a cone-defined course, and the Moose Test involved sudden obstacles, testing the car's ability to react quickly.

The verdict

The Škoda Slavia is an exceptional sedan, even without the Monte Carlo makeover. With each test, I grew fonder of the machine. And the new sporty upgrade, though only cosmetic in nature, ups its spunk factor. It's not a racing car, but it performs remarkably well in everyday driving scenarios, offering a balance of power, control, and style. Whether on the track or the road, this sedan is sure to impress. It's a dasher.

The Škoda Slavia Monte Carlo is priced (ex-showroom) at ₹15.79 lakh (1.0-litre manual), ₹16.89 lakh (1.0-litre automatic), and ₹18.49 lakh (1.5-litre dual-clutch automatic).

XPRESS HIGHWAY
FORTNIGHTLY SEGMENT ON WHAT'S REVVING UP IN THE AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR

The writer is a freelance auto expert, who hosts TV shows and anchors the YouTube channel 'CARKADUVA'

TALKING ART

When art comes under the scanner

JITHA KARTHIKEYAN
jithakarthikeyan2@gmail.com

(Jitha Karthikeyan is an artist and curator, passionate about making art accessible to the larger public)

WE are a nation of extremes when it comes to the rules of censorship. We may have come a long way from the era where images of flowers blossoming gently but furiously were used as metaphors for wedding nights in our movies lest we imagine the unimaginable, while a skimpily clad vamp was allowed to seduce with raunchy item numbers. Yet, our peculiar standards of censorship still plays havoc in the creative lives of many of our citizens.

Art has never been censorship's favourite child. Instead, it has often been thrashed and given a raw deal by the custodians of these controls. A recent case that came up in the High Court is proof enough.

In April 2023, seven works of art by some of the most renowned artists of India, were confiscated after being labelled as obscene material, by the Customs Department of Mumbai. They included works by FN Souza and Akbar Padamsee, two of India's best known contemporary artists. Both of them were founding members of the Progressive Artists' Group, an association formed a few months after India's independence, to create new standards for visual arts in a country that was still strongly influenced by nationalism in every sphere.

While Souza was known for his unrestrained style of painting which covered varied subjects from icons of Christianity to nudes, Padamsee's images were mainly within the genre of landscapes and portraitures. Their artworks not only sell for astronomical amounts today but are considered the country's national treasures.

When Mumbai-based businessman and art collector, Mustafa Karachiwala, bought artworks by these two acclaimed artists at the auctions in London and Scotland in 2022, little did he realise that he would be spending months relentlessly defending his decision in the courts of India.

Among the artworks were Souza's folio of four ink on paper drawings titled 'Lovers' which showed couples engaging in the sexual act and Padamsee's charcoal drawing and two black and white photographs titled 'Nude', depicting a naked woman.

Based on the titles 'Nude' and 'Erotic' mentioned in the invoice, the customs officials were alerted and the consignment seized on arrival for violating obscenity laws. Karachiwala's company was fined but he fought back by taking the matter to court. He contested the seizure by arguing that the context of the artworks was not considered. The Bombay High Court eventually ordered the release of the works, while observing that the customs officers had relied on personal opinions without taking any expert opinion or considering the merit of the artists.

This is not the first time that art has come under the unreasonable lens of censorship. Several legal cases have been fought for artistic freedom of expression on this soil, and the Courts of the country have always stood as a beacon of hope for the creative field. Picasso once remarked, " Art is never chaste. It ought to be never allowed into contact with those not sufficiently prepared. Where it is chaste, it is not art." Years have passed since, and yet the words still ring true!

(The writer's views are personal)

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) ASIFULLAH KHAN** S/O SHAREEF KHAN MAHBOOB KHAN residing at No. 3/1,2nd Floor, 2nd Main Road SK Garden PO Benson Town, Bangalore-560046, have changed my Name from **(OLD NAME) ASIFULLAH KHAN** to **(NEW NAME) ASIF ULLA KHAN S/O SHARIFF KHAN,** vide Affidavit dated 07.11.2024 sworn before Notary S.I.Balaguru, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) FASIH AKHTAR** Residing at No. 568/B, 2nd stage, HBR layout, Bangalore 560043, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) FASIH AKHTAR** to **(NEW NAME) MD FASIH AKHTAR** vide affidavit dated 08.11.2024 sworn before Notary S.I.Balaguru, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **NOHA SHABER** D/o **Shabeer Ahmed** and Holder Passport No.M6064396 R/at No.402, New India Sapphire 2nd Main Road, Ambedkar Layout, Kaval Byrasandra Bengaluru- 560025 have changed my name to **NOHA SHABEER** vide affidavit dated: 7/11/2024 Befor Notary **A.Gerard** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, S. BHUVANESHWARI, Aged about 22 years, is the daughter of Service No. JC312138A, Rank: SUB MAJ, Name: SOUNDRA RAJAN S., Unit: CICE, MEG & CENTRE, permanent resident of No.3/432, Alagar Kovil, Gangai Nagar, Karuppan Kovil Poyyakaraipatti, Kallandhiri, Madurai, Tamil Nadu-625301. have changed my name from S. **BHUVANESHWARI to S. BHUVANESHWARI** vide affidavit dated: 09.11.2024 before advocate and notary N. Thulasi, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, E K GEETHA legally wedded spouse of No. 14578849A, Rank: NK (Sep) Name: PRAKASHA V C, presently residing Flat No. 158, Block No.C-14, RGHCL Military Apartment, Po: Carmelaram, Kodathi Village, Bangalore-560035, have changed my name from **E K GEETHA to GEETHA E K** vide Affidavit dated 08/11/2024 before K.Venkateshan, Advocate & Notary, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SUNETHRA .A.V**, D/o. Sri K. Velandhi, aged about 25 years, residing at No. 16, Venkatappa Garden, Viveknagar Post, Bengaluru-560047, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SUNETHRA .A.V** to **V. SUVETHINI**, vide affidavit dated 10.12.2020, sworn to before Ramesh Kumar R.K, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **SMT. SEEMA KUMARI SINGH**, W/o. Umesh Singh, aged about 44 years, residing at No. 20, 12th Ward, Housing Board, Sarjapura Main Road, Muthanallur Cross, Dommasandra, Bangalore-562125, do hereby declare that my family members were named me as **SAGYANTA DEVI** and after marriage with the my Husband consent my name has been changed as **SEEMA KUMARI SINGH.** I further state that my children's **Swetha Kumari Singh** and **Vishal Kumar Singh** at the time of joining their schools I have given my name as **SAGYANTA DEVI** which got changed now as **SEEMA KUMARI SINGH** and which is recorded correctly in Aadhar Card, PAN Card and such other Documents. I declare that the aforesaid both the names refer and belong to me and both the names are one and the same person, vide affidavit dated 24.09.2024, sworn before Pri. Civil Judge & J.M.F.C Anekal.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SRIDHAR SEERAPU REDDY**, S/o. Seerapu Sitarama Reddy, Aged about 48 years, Residing at 24, Sneha 4th Main Road, Near Mahalakshmi Layout Swimming Pool, Shankar Nagar, Nandini Layout, Bangalore - 560 096, do hereby declare that I have changed my daughter's name from **SANAH SEERAPU REDDY** to **SUNANDINI KARVATTI SERAPU** vide affidavit dated 08.11.2024 sworn to before Anitha Bai, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) KHATRI ABDUL AZIZ AHMED,** residing at No. 7 Rathan Singh Lane, Frazer Town, Bangalore North, Karnataka,, Bangalore -560005, have changed my Name from **(OLD NAME) KHATRI ABDUL AZIZ AHMED** to **(NEW NAME) ABDUL AZIZ KHATRI,** vide Affidavit dated 07.11.2024 sworn before Notary S.I.Balaguru, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) ATHEEQ AHMED** residing at No.6, K.No. 26/5, G Floor, Haseen Manzil 9th cross, 2nd Main, tippu chowk, Mangammanapalya, Bommanahalli, Bengaluru 560068, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) ATHEEQ AHMED** to **(NEW NAME) ATHEEQ AHMED ASLAM PASHA** vide affidavit dated 09.11.2024 sworn before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, CHANCHAL JINDAL (New Name), W/o. Naveen Kumar Jindal, residing at No.T1 A303, Mahindra Windchimes, 37/3, Bannerghatta Road, Opp BPL Arakere, Bangalore-560076, Karnataka, India, that I have changed my name from CHANCHAL KUMARI (Old Name) to CHANCHAL JINDAL (New Name), henceforth I shall be known and called as CHANCHAL JINDAL (New Name) only for all purpose, vide Affidavit dated: 19/10/2024, before Notary MOHAMMED HUSSAIN. K, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **BHASKARA DUGGAPPA MOOLYA, S/o. Duggappa Moolya, Resident of No. 2-128, Kapikad House, Katipalla, Delanthabettu, Mangaluru, Dakshina Kannada, Karnataka - 575030, have changed my name to BHASKARA** vide affidavit dated: 08.11.2024 before notary ARAVIND PATIL .G.G, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, NANDA GOPAL S, Aged about 20 years, is the Son of Service No.JC312138A, Rank: SUB MAJ, Name: SOUNDRA RAJAN S., Unit:CICE, MEG & CENTRE, permanent resident of No.3/432, Alagar Kovil,Gangai Nagar, Karuppan Kovil Poyyakaraipatti, Kallandhiri, Madurai,Tamil Nadu-625301. have changed my name from **NANDA GOPAL to NANDA GOPAL S** vide affidavit dated: 09.11.2024 before advocate and notary N. Thulasi, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **YOUNUS SALEEM BEEDI ABDUL,** aged about 53 years, S/o. B.A. Basheer, residing at No. 86/1, 13th Main, 10th Cross, N R Layout, Virat Nagar, Bommanahalli, Bengaluru-560068, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **BEEDI ABDUL YUNUS SALEEM** to **YOUNUS SALEEM BEEDI ABDUL** vide affidavit dated 08.11.2024, sworn to before Dharani .P, Advocate & notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Mrs. JANHAVI KIRAN KUMAR** W/o. KIRAN KUMAR RAMACHANDRAPPA, resident of No. 2005/2006, 3rd Floor, Maruthy Nilaya, 1st Main, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru-560040, do hereby declare that I have changed my son's name from **PRANAV KIRAN KUMAR** to **PRANAV KIRAN,** vide affidavit dated 09.11.2024, sworn to before K.V. Mani, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Manasa Bandi** (Old Name), W/o. Mahesh Kumar Gudiwada aged about 32 years, R/at No. 495, 5th Main Road, Katriguppe Water Tank, Bangalore- 560 085 have changed my name as **MANASA B. M.** (New Name) vide affidavit dated 07.11.2024 sworn before Advocate & Notary Ravi, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) SONALI KRISHNAKUMAR LAKHOTIA** W/o. Krishna Kumar Lakhotia, residing at Flat #W1002, Mantri Webcity, Hennur Main Road, Kothanur Village, Bengaluru 560077, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) SONALI KRISHNAKUMAR LAKHOTIA** to **(NEW NAME) SONALI LAKHOTIA** vide affidavit dated 07.11.2024 sworn before Notary S.I.Balaguru, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MEHJABEEN NASIRUDDIN SHAIKH** W/o **Shaikh Nasiruddin Abdul Latif** and Holder Passport No.M5320357 R/at No.16, Flat 404 Orchid Woods, 15th Main Road, Ambedkar Layout Kavalbyrasandra Bengaluru-560032 have changed my name to **MEHJABEEN SHAIKH** vide affidavit dated: 7/11/2024 Befor Notary **A.Gerard** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, VISHWANATH BARAGUNDI, S/o Danappa, residing at No. A-112, 1st Floor, 73/1, Value Plus Apartment, 80 Feet Road, Doddakalasandra Post, Bengaluru-560062, Karnataka, India, declare that I have changed the name of my Minor Son from CHINMAY BARAGUNDI (Old Name) to CHINMAY VISHWANATH (New Name), henceforth my Son shall be known and called as CHINMAY VISHWANATH (New Name) only for all purpose, vide Affidavit dated : 09/11/2024 before Hegde Ganapati Venkatraman, at BENGALURU.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **DHANALAKSHMI S**, Aged about 63 years, W/o. Selvaraj, who is the Mother of Service No. JC312138A, Rank: SUB MAJ, Name: SOUNDRA RAJAN S., Unit: CICE, MEG & CENTRE, permanent resident of No. 3/432, Alagar Kovil, Gangai Nagar, Karuppan Kovil Poyyakaraipatti, Kallandhiri, Madurai, Tamil Nadu-625301. have changed my name from **DHANALAKSHMI to DHANALAKSHMI S** and my correct date of birth is **12/01/1960** but it mentioned as **01/07/1955** in my son service documents. I solemnly affirm and declare that both the names and DOB are indicating and referring myself as a same and one identical person, not different person whatsoever. Vide affidavit dated : 09-11-2024 sworn before advocate and notary N. Thulasi, Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME
I, S. RAJALAKSHMI, Aged about 46 years, is the Wife of Service No. JC312138A, Rank: SUB MAJ, Name: SOUNDRA RAJAN S., Unit: CICE, MEG & CENTRE, permanent resident of No.3/432, Alagar Kovil, Gangai Nagar, Karuppan Kovil Poyyakaraipatti, Kallandhiri, Madurai, Tamil Nadu-625301. have changed my name from **S. RAJA LAKSHMI to S. RAJALAKSHMI** vide affidavit dated: 09.11.2024 before advocate and notary N. Thulasi, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **JAISWETA N (JAISWETA NAARRAYANAN)**, aged about 23 years, D/o Naarrayana Rao P S, No. B-214, Sai Springs Apartment, Avalahalli, Yelahanka, Bengaluru-560064, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **JAISWETA** to **JAISWETA N (JAISWETA NAARRAYANAN),** vide affidavit dated 09.11.2024, sworn to before K.V. Mani, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **KUVOLU LOHE,** aged about 33 years, D/o. Veprayi Lohe, No. 303, Oxford Suites, Rustam Old Airport Road, Bengaluru-560017, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **KUVOLU** to **KUVOLU LOHE,** vide affidavit dated 09.11.2024, sworn to before K.V. Mani, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I **SUSHMA SHEKAR** W/o ANURAAG H K, aged 31 years R/a No.92, flat No.401, 4th floor, "Sri Balaji Nivas" ,3rd main road, Poornaprajna layout, Uttarahalli, Bangalore 560061, do hereby change my name from **SUSHMA SHEKAR / SUSHMA S** to **ANANYA SREE GOWDA** and also my signature pattern in my all future documents vide affidavit dated **07.11.2024** sworn in before **S.R.THULASIKRISHNA. M.A, L.L.B** advocate and notary.

HOLLYWOOD ACTION DIRECTOR JJ PERRY JOINS YASH'S *TOXIC*

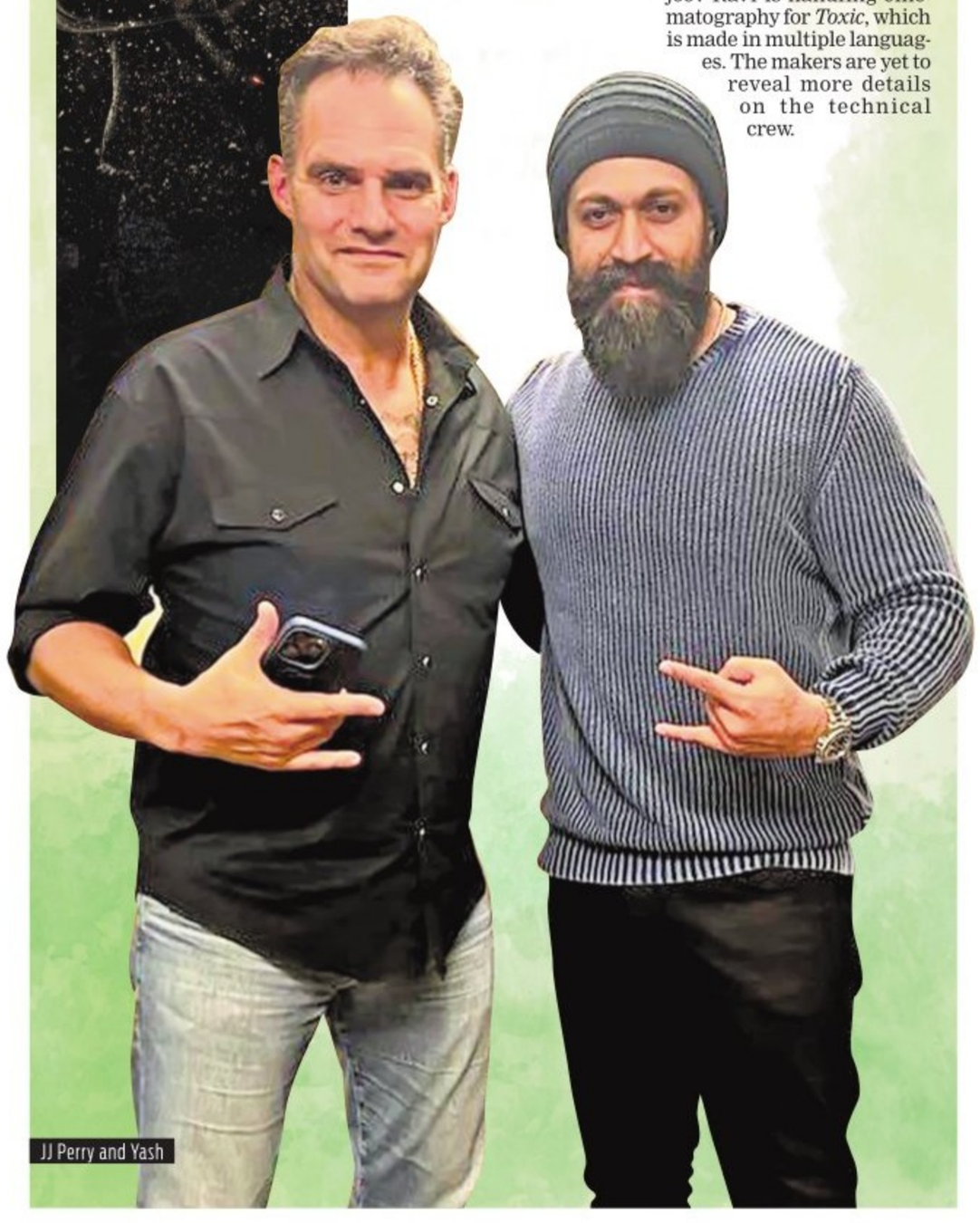
The film, directed by Geetu Mohandas under the KVN Production banner, is currently shooting in Mumbai

A SHARADHAA

WE had previously reported that *Toxic* will resume shooting in Mumbai, where Yash and the rest of the crew are set to camp in the film city. According to reports, a significant portion of the film, which is being directed by Geetu Mohandas under the KVN Productions banner, will be shot here. This schedule, spanning over 45 days, will also feature several song segments. In the latest update from the *Toxic* team, the film has added Hollywood action director JJ Perry to direct the high-octane action sequences. Perry is best known for his work on blockbuster franchises like *John Wick*, *Fast and Furious*, and *Day Shift*.

Perry has already arrived in Mumbai and has already started working on the film. Speaking about his involvement in the film, Perry said, "I'm excited to be here in India and to work with Yash in *Toxic*, and it's going to be awesome. Yash is an amazing actor and an incredible action performer. He's kind and generous. I consider him a brother, and I'm proud to call him my friend and work alongside him. I am excited to work with Geetu too. I'm sure we're going to bring something special to the screen."

The film boasts a star-studded cast, including Nayanthara and Huma Qureshi, who were recently spotted filming in Bengaluru. Also joining the team are British actors Darrel D'Silva and Benedict Garrett. While Yash's role is confirmed, the makers have yet to officially announce the full cast. Rajeev Ravi is handling cinematography for *Toxic*, which is made in multiple languages. The makers are yet to reveal more details on the technical crew.



JJ Perry and Yash

A still from the film

Raju James Bond to release by the end of the year

CE FEATURES

RAJU James Bond, starring First Rank Raju actor Gurunandan, is set to release on December 27. Directed by Deepak Madhuvanahalli, the film is billed to be a fun-filled entertainer. After days of speculation, the release date was confirmed following the motion poster launch on Saturday. Producers Manjunath Vishwakarma and Kiran Bharturu were present for the announcement.

Director Madhuvanahalli shared that audiences will see Gurunandan in a new avatar, breaking away from his First Rank Raju image. "We've pushed him out of his comfort zone into a completely new genre," he said, adding, "This film offers clean, wholesome entertainment, with no vulgar dialogues, ensuring at least an hour of laughter. Let's wrap up the year with fun and joy!"

Gurunandan spoke about his transition from his iconic character, saying, "The director has challenged me with dance and action sequences. The producers ensured there were no shortcuts in the making."

The film stars Mridula as the female lead, along with Ravi Shankar, Chikkanna, Sadhu Kokila, Achyuth Kumar, and Jai Jagadish in key roles. Dance choreographer Murali directed four songs, two filmed in India and two in London. The cinematography for the film is handled by Manohar Joshi. *Raju James Bond* will be released in both Kannada and Hindi.

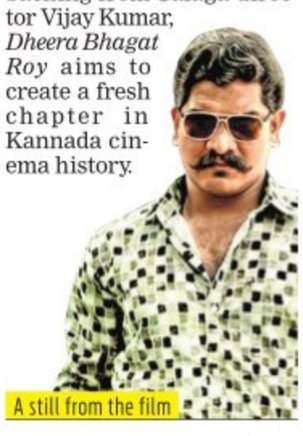
Dheera Bhagat Roy locks in Dec release

CE FEATURES

DHEERA Bhagat Roy is set to release on December 6, going head-to-head with the highly anticipated Pushpa 2. Director Karnan and his team see this as a moment for Kannada cinema to shine. "This isn't just about competition," Karnan noted while adding, "it's about the courage to stand tall. Rangi Taranga's success against Baahubali gives us the confidence to take this step."

Producer Praveen Gowda added, "Kannadigas are here to support us; we trust our audience." The film introduces Rakesh Dalawai as the lead, alongside debut female actor Sucharitha Sahayara. Rakesh expressed his pride in competing with Pushpa 2: "I'm a Bellary boy, and Kannada cinema is my heart."

Produced by Shree Om Cine Entertainers, *Dheera Bhagat Roy* has music by Poornachandra Tejaswi, cinematography by Selvam John, and editing by NM Vishwa. Karnan describes the film as a quality production. The team has strongly opposed the perceived arrogance of Pushpa 2's distributors. Activist Bhaskar Prasad says, "Kannadigas won't bow to the influence of non-Kannada films." With backing from Salaga director Vijay Kumar, *Dheera Bhagat Roy* aims to create a fresh chapter in Kannada cinema history.



A still from the film

Sreeleela joins the Pushpa franchise

The Kannada actor, who has taken Telugu cinema by storm, now teams up with Allu Arjun for a special dance number in *Pushpa 2*

CE FEATURES

WITH just a month away from release, the makers of *Pushpa 2*: The Rule have revealed an exciting update about the film. The latest announcement from the team reveals that Sreeleela will feature in a glamorous, high-energy song. The much-awaited film is all set to hit the theatres on December 5 in multiple languages. While Samantha's Oo Antava from the first film became a global sensation, the sequel will introduce another special track featuring Sreeleela. She will perform in a vibrant number, along the lines of her previous hit Kurchi Madathapetti. The upcoming film has Allu Arjun returning as the fierce red sandalwood smuggler, Pushpa Raj.

Allu Arjun

The announcement regarding Sreelala joining the film is especially significant as it highlights the rising influence of Kannada actors in the Pushpa franchise. Rashmika Mandanna began her career with Kirik Party in 2016. She will reprise her role as Pushpa's love interest, Srivalli, in the sequel. The film also features Daali Dhanajay as the antagonist. Sreeleela's journey began with films like Kiss and By 2 Love in Kannada, before she made her mark in Telugu cinema, sharing screen space with stars like Ravi Teja, Nandamuri Balakrishna, Mahesh Babu, and Nithin. In the upcoming film, the actor will be seen in a dance number choreographed by the renowned Ganesh Acharya. The makers of *Pushpa 2* recently released an exciting poster announcing Sreeleela's special appearance. According to reports, a trailer for the film is all set to arrive soon.

Directed by Sukumar and produced by Mythri Movie Makers, *Pushpa 2*: The Rule will also feature Fahadh Faasil in a pivotal role. The original film, which was released in 2021, was noted for its critical and commercial success. *Pushpa 2* has cinematography by Miroslaw Kuba Brozek and music by Devi Sri Prasad.

Had to cut a 100-page script to 70 pages due to budget constraints: Pinaki Janardhan

House of Manikanta director speaks on his debut independent film, which is being selected at Film Bazaar's recommendation section

CE FEATURES

WHILE big-budget films continue to dominate the screen, *House of Manikanta* stands out as a raw, independent creation by director Pinaki Janardhan. Set entirely within a single house, the film is shot with the camera never leaving its confines. With a shoestring budget and just ten days of shooting, the film has already gained attention by being selected for Film Bazaar's prestigious recommendations section, part of the NFDC's initiative to support independent films. It is also slated for release on OTT platforms, with a premiere at a major film festival planned in the coming days.

"We shot the entire film in just ten days, with a tight budget. But I believe limitations breed creativity," says Pinaki, reflecting on the challenging yet rewarding process of making the 1-hour 25-minute film. *House of Manikanta* revolves around a character named Manikanta, played by actor GG. Pinaki, however, clarifies that Manikanta is not the protagonist in the traditional sense. Instead, the house itself becomes just as much a character as the people in it. "The title, House of Manikanta, isn't just the name of the house—it represents the world within, the emotions, the hidden tensions, and the constraints of its inhabitants," explains Pinaki. The decision to shoot in a single location adds to the sense of isolation and intensity. "It's about how the characters evolve within the same space, and how the house itself begins to feel like a character in the story," he adds.

Before venturing into direction, Pinaki worked on a couple of short films and as an assistant director on *Grey Games*. "Working on *Grey Games* taught me a lot, and that's where I got my investors, who currently reside in the UK," he recalls. He shares that the inspiration for *House of Manikanta* came to him during his time working on *Grey Games*. "While working on *Grey Games*, I came across a house that I felt deeply connected to, and that's when the idea for the film took root," Pinaki explains. Despite the tight budget, Pinaki remained committed to his vision. "I had to reduce a 100-page script to 70 pages because we couldn't afford to stretch the budget any further. But that honesty in the process made the film what it is today," he says. "The experience taught me that a strong story doesn't need a big budget. What matters is the heart of the film, the soul of the narrative," adds Pinaki. "I hope the film encourages other independent filmmakers to think outside the box, to tell their stories with honesty and without worrying too much about the budget."

Pinaki Janardhan has big plans for the future. "Being a part of Film Bazaar has been an incredible honour, and I hope the film finds its audience through festival circuits and eventually on OTT platforms," he says.

House of Manikanta also stars Mann Chhatbar, Chethan Vicky, Krishna Hebbale, and Ashwin Haasan in key roles. The technical crew of the film includes cinematographer Arfan Abdulazeez, editor Deepak M Kulal, and composer Sahil Jamal. Manish is the production designer while Roshan is the art director.

Pinaki Janardhan

Team House of Manikanta